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Pensioner's warning about possible new phone scam

A PENSIONER is seeking to alert people to a possible new telephone scam.

The 68-year-old woman from Ormskirk, who did not wish to be named, says that when answering her landline she was greeted by an automated voice in an American-sounding accent informing her that her Internet connection had been compromised and she was going to be cut off within a day.

She was then instructed her to press option 1 on her keypad if she wanted to avert any disruption to her Internet service.

However she believes the call to be a variation on a well-known scam whereby callers purporting to be representing Microsoft or an Internet provider claim there is an issue with the connection and after gaining the householder's confidence subsequently gain access to their computers to get bank details or con them into paying for services they don't need.

Victims have been known to lose thousands of pounds to the tricksters.

Last year Action Fraud, said the average age of phone scam victims was 62 and they were typically conned out of £600.

The concerned Ormskirk resident said: "I thought the call was suspicious but I had heard of other scams like this before, so I was aware, but other people might not be.

"I want to alert people not to be taken in."

Action Fraud says it will look into the woman's report.

The advice from the Trading Standards National e-Crime team and Microsoft is to never give anyone access to your PC, laptop or tablet, unless you can confirm it's a legitimate member of the computer support team with whom you are already a customer and have spoken to previously.

TRUST SAYS PRIVATE FIRM WILL NOT RUN HOSPITAL CAR PARKS

Bosses say tender process is just for new hi-tech system

Report by **Kenny Parker**

SOUTHPORT and Ormskirk Hospitals NHS Trust has stated that its car parks will NOT be managed by a private company even after the technology used to control them has gone out to tender.

Trust bosses have insisted that the car parks at both the Southport and Ormskirk sites will continue to be managed by the hospitals.

The statement comes after fears were raised that a private company was being sought to take over the overall management of them.

A member of staff, who did not want to be named, said he believed that private car park management companies make a significant amount of their profits from issuing penalties, and that it would be in their interests to fine staff and patients.

He was also concerned that present hospital car park staff would lose their jobs.

Referring to how West Lancs MP, Rosie Cooper intervened when the hospital car parks were last controlled by a private company, because of the number of complaints about fines being issued, the staff member feared the trust was taking a step backwards and going against Government and public opinion on the matter.

However, hospital chiefs insist that they are only looking for a company to replace the existing technology used to control the car parks which is outdated and in need of repair.

A spokesperson for the trust said: "The trust is looking for a new system to control parking and take payments for it.

"This is definitely needed because the current system is not fit for purpose, it is really old and is often broken.

"The new system will also introduce the benefit of allowing drivers to pay by card, so it should be a better experience over all."

And director of finance, Steve Shanahan, added: "The trust is asking contractors to propose a technical solution to improve the parking control and payment system at Southport and Ormskirk hospitals.

"The car parks will remain the property of the trust and operated by trust staff whatever the outcome of this exercise.

"The trust will also retain control of setting fees for parking and there are no planned redundancies."

The tendering process is expected to be completed by early summer with a new system in place later in the year.

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Full list of candidates finalised for West Lancashire Borough Council elections

VOTERS will go to the polls in the local elections to elect members of West Lancs Council on Thursday, May 3, with a total of 42 candidates standing in 18 wards.

Polling stations open at 7am and residents registered on the Electoral Roll have until 10pm to cast their votes.

The full list of candidates standing in the various wards is as follows:

Ashurst:
Yvonne Gagen (Labour); William Gilmour (Green Party); Jane Houlgrave (Conservative).

Aughton & Downholland:
Stephen Kirrelly (Lab); David O'Toole (Con).

Aughton Park:
Bernie Green (Lab); Doreen Stephenson (Con).

Burscough East:
Susan Evans (Lab); Ruth Melling (Con).

Burscough West:
Cynthia Dereli (Labour and Co-operative Party) Gillian Taylor (Con).

Derby:
Ian Davis (Our West Lancashire); Gareth Dowling (Lab); Heather Doyle (Green); Lynne Gray (Con).

Hesketh-with-Becconsall:
Christopher Ashcroft (Con); Nick Kemp (Lab); Tina Stringfellow (Liberal Democrat).

Knowsley:
Michelle Aldridge (Lab); Kate Mitchell (OWL); Jeffrey Vernon (Con).

Moorside:
Terry Devine (Lab); Sarah Westley (Con).

Newburgh:
Julian Finch (Lab); Eddie Pope (Con).

North Meols:
Kath Lockie (Lab); George Rear (Con).

Parbold:
Clare Gillard (Lab); David Whittington (Con).

Scarisbrick:
Claire Bowen (Lab); Jane Marshall (Con).

Scott:
Noel Delaney (Lab); George Prat (Con); Jane Thompson (OWL).

Skelmersdale South:
Vickie Cummins (Lab); Valerie Marsh (Con).

Tanhouse:
Susan Janvier (Con); Bob Pendleton (Lab).

Tarleton:
Freddie Hodson (Lab); John Mee (Con).

Up Holland:
David Marsh (Con); Ian Moran (Lab).

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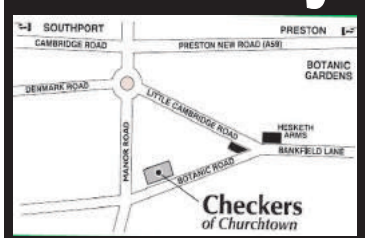

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It's African mission accomplished for Rotary Club team

MEMBERS of the Ormskirk Clocktower Rotary Club have returned from their latest mission to Uganda where they placed a plaque at a school, for which they raised thousands of pounds to help renovate, as well as distributing gifts to hundreds of orphans.

As previously reported in the Champion, the Rotarians had raised £3,000 to finance a new roof and extension for the school for orphans near to the country's capital city, Kampala.

The school is run by the Molly and Paul Childcare Foundation, a charity associated with the Pearl of Africa Children's Choir who visit West Lancs every year as part of a fundraising tour.

An eight-strong team up Rotarians and 'friends' who had raised a further £2,000, flew out loaded up with suitcases packed with hundred of clothes, toys, educational equipment and medical aid, all donated by the Ormskirk, Burscough and Aughton community, as well as from friends and family,

Report by **Kenny Parker**

Life-changing

International Chair for Clocktower Rotary and trip organiser, Liz Tonge, said that the team spent days visiting schools, children's orphanages and a clinic, and also helped with some extra building work.

Describing it as "an incredible, emotional, amazing and life-changing experience", she added: "Every one of the 250 orphaned or destitute children living in the 10 crowded homes that make up Kamuzinda Children's Village received the gift of clothing or a toy.

"These children, often sharing two or three to a bunk, keep all their life belongings in a small metal box. It was heart-wrenching to see the look of joy on their faces when they saw the gifts we had taken.

"As well as having the satisfaction of seeing the new roof of Kamuzinda Primary School, funded by a District Rotary Grant and Clocktower Rotarians last year, that has replaced the old leaking roof, the team also undertook further building work at the school, removing the concrete floors from three classrooms, and levelling the earth before helping to lay a new one.

"The blisters and aching muscles were well worth it to place the Rotary plaque on the school wall!"

Other highlights of the trip for the party were being able to fund a special Easter Monday celebration for all of the children and the moment when one Rotary member presented a new wheelchair to a disabled teenage polio victim who couldn't attend school because his old wheelchair, made from a plastic garden chair, had lost a wheel.

Liz says the Rotarians are now working to raise more funds to complete the extension work on the school, which needs a further £1,000 to finish another floor and internal plastering.

The team also met members of the Pearl of Africa Children's Choir who will be travelling to the Ormskirk area in October to raise funds to help feed the 2000 children in Molly and Paul's care.

Members of Ormskirk Clocktower Rotary Club and children from Kamuzinda Primary School with the newly-placed plaque. Trip organiser Liz Tonge is pictured (centre) in pink.

Last chances to get charity's help with new technology before summer break

A LOCAL charity is offering West Lancs residents two more opportunities to learn how to get to grips with their laptops, tablets, mobile phones, online shopping or social media, before taking a break for the summer.

The Timesavers group has been providing a help desk every Thursday at the Four Lane Ends Mission in Skelmersdale Road, Bickerstaffe for people struggling to come to terms with digital technology.

Now they are planning two more sessions, on April 19 and 26, before a summer break.

The sessions run from 2 to 4pm and are free, although donations are welcome.

Timesavers is a small, parent-run charity providing training and office work experience along with computer skills for people with moderate learning difficulties.

For more information ring 07971 299606 or email westlancsedward@btinternet.com.

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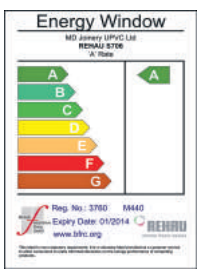

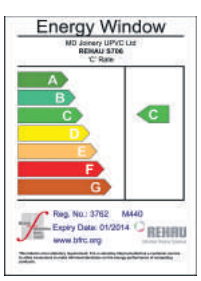

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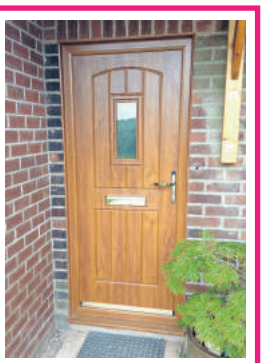
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NT supporters' jazz and buffet evening

THE Ormskirk and District Association of National Trust Supporters' Group are hosting a jazz and buffet evening at Aughton Village Hall in Winifred Lane on Friday, May 11.

Dixieland and jazz musicians, Cafe Society, will provide the entertainment.

Tickets, priced £24, ncluding a two-course hot buffet, can be ordered from Rosemary Wallington on 01695 572989. The performance will begin at 7.30pm but guests are asked to arrive by 7pm.

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New bins system will provide better value for money, says council

Report by **Henry James**

WEST Lancs Council chiefs have defended the decision to introduce brown bins for garden waste to enable green bins to be used for cardboard and paper.

The scheme has stirred up controversy with some residents calling it a waste of money and others expressing concerns about the proliferation of bins on the streets constituting a safety hazard.

However the authority says the new arrangements are "much better value for council taxpayers."

A council spokesman said: "Some people have asked would it not make more sense just to keep the green bin for garden waste and use the new brown bin for the collection of cardboard and paper.

"This would be the simplest approach but also the most expensive option. Not all residents signed up to the chargeable garden waste scheme launched last year and therefore many green bins remain unused.

"These would be better put to use to collect cardboard and paper and a new brown bin introduced only to those residents that sign up to the garden waste scheme.

"If the brown bin was to be used to collect cardboard and paper the council would have to provide these to more than 48,000 properties. Just under half of homes (22,000) signed up to the garden waste collection services in 2017/18. But almost every resident has a green bin from when the garden waste collection service was free, even if they are not currently signed up to the service.

The council has defended the decision to use the green bin (above) for cardboard and paper waste and introduce brown bins for garden waste, despite criticism

"Therefore it is much better value for money for the council - and the council taxpayer - to use green bins already at properties for recycling paper and cardboard and brown bins be introduced only to homes using the garden waste collection service.

"Residents who are not currently signed up for the Garden Waste Collection Services and don't have a green bin will receive one for cardboard and paper recycling, free of charge if they request one before June 4. After that they will have to pay £25.

"The changes to the bins will take effect on June 4 and a leaflet will be distributed to every household to explain the changes in more detail."

Concerns had also been raised about possible health risks in the use of green bins formerly used for garden waste to collect paper and cardboard.

The council spokesman added: "Some people have asked about the risk of cross contamination. The council would encourage people to wash the green bins out if at all possible, but this is not essential as the risk of cross contamination is low and would not create any significant problems in terms of processing this material. Any remnants of garden waste in the bins are likely to disappear quite quickly."

'Welcomed'

Regarding the number of bins on the streets, the spokesman said: "It is envisaged that most households will have four bins, the council will remove any extra green bins from residents' properties when the brown bins are delivered. If residents want to purchase extra bins for garden waste this is entirely up to them."

The council added that some residents had welcomed the idea of having a bin for cardboard and paper recycling to replace the blue bag, providing more capacity to store these items and saving them trips to a recycling centre. It would also stop waste paper blowing around the streets and increasing costs when street cleansing teams were deployed to clear it up.

And the spokesman concluded; "The council would like to remind all residents to make sure that they have the correct bins to recycle their waste. For more information visit www.westlancs.gov.uk."

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Edge Hill contractor admits possession of indecent images

University severs all contact with company - Crown Court sentencing date set for guilty director

By our **Court Reporter**

THE director of an electrical installation company which was contracted to work with Edge Hill University has appeared in court for possessing indecent and prohibited images of children.

The university says it has now severed all relations with David Poole and the company, Birkdale Electrical Services.

Poole, 69, of Blundell Avenue, Birkdale, appeared at Sefton Magistrates Court on April 4 where he pleaded guilty to three charges of making indecent photographs of children; one charge of possessing four prohibited images of a child; one charge of possession of five extreme pornographic images; and one charge of possessing 220 indecent photographs.

Making an image or photograph can refer to opening, accessing, downloading or storing online content.

The first three charges state that he had 66 category A images, the most serious kind, 73 category B images and 81 of category C images.

All offences relate to the period between March 2012 and May 2017.

Poole resigned as director and secretary of Birkdale Electrical Services the day after his court appearance.

Prosecutor Jane Stacey said: "The mere fact that there are 66 category A images, the starting point is a minimum of 12 months custody and outside the parameters of this court.

"But when you take into take account the number of B and C images plus a number of extreme pornographic images, this is well outside the powers of this court and the Crown would invite you to send it to the crown court."

Cancelled

Solicitor Mike Ellis did not oppose the prosecution's request. He told the court that Poole had no previous convictions.

Granting him unconditional bail, magistrates committed Poole to Liverpool Crown Court for sentencing on Wednesday, May 2.

A spokesperson for Edge Hill said: "Edge Hill University has cancelled every relationship and contract it held with Birkdale Electrical Services and its director David Poole.

"A contingency plan has been put in place so our continuing building projects are not affected and there will be no ongoing future relationship with this company."

Borough residents invited to contribute to Lathom heritage digital archive project

NORTH West Heritage is inviting residents of West Lancs who have material related to the history and heritage of Lathom to have it digitally recorded for an online archive.

Workshops and training sessions on how to catalogue and digitally record material for the Lathom Digital Project will take place on Saturdays April 21 and 28 from 10am to 4pm at the Scout Hut in Hall Lane, Lathom.

Lathom Park Trust is also taking part in the project which is the initiative of Paul Sherman site director with North West Heritage, an archaeology, conservation and research group based in Bursocugh.

Available

The plan is to digitally copy a wide variety of items linked to Lathom and then create a digital archive, which will be hosted by The National Archives server.

None of the items copied will be kept, they can be retained by their owners. The digital archive will then be made freely available online for research.

North West Heritage is providing the training and technical equipment for this stage of the project. Anyone who would like to go along on either day to learn more about the plan or to offer any Lathom-related historical item for inclusion in the digital archive would be welcome.

To follow the progress of the project, visit the Lathom Park Trust's Facebook page.

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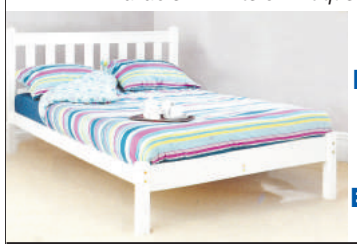

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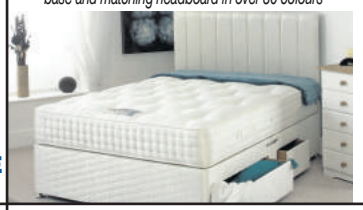

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County's cabinet agrees new 'dementia friendly' strategy

Report by **Henry James**

A NEW strategy to tackle dementia across the county was agreed by Lancashire County Council's cabinet on Thursday, April 12.

The Dementia Friendly Lancashire strategy outlines how the authority will work with other organisations to address dementia between 2018 and 2023.

It pinpoints five areas to focus on as follows:

- Reducing the prevalence of dementia in Lancashire.
- Raising awareness of all types of dementia.
- Promoting early diagnosis and increase diagnosis rates.
- Ensuring people access early treatment and get the support they need to live independently.
- Ensuring the county council becomes a 'Dementia Friendly' organisation and continues to develop partnerships to address dementia.

Research suggests that there are currently around 15,500 people living with dementia in Lancashire.

County Councillor Shaun Turner

And this figure is set to rise by as much as 27% by 2026 due to population growth in the older age groups.

County Councillor Shaun Turner, Lancashire's cabinet member for health and well-being, said: "Dementia is already an important health issue and the ageing population means more and more people across Lancashire will live with the condition in the next few years.

"This new strategy is crucial in setting out how we will build on the good work we already do in Lancashire and we've consulted people living with dementia and their families to give them the opportunity to have their say on our plans.

"We want to raise awareness of dementia and encourage people to talk about it. Detecting dementia early can often lead to better support for people living with the condition and their families.

Reviewed

"This will help people access the treatment they need sooner to slow down progression of the condition so they can continue to live independently for as long as possible. The strategy will also ensure we can improve care for people who need more intensive support.

"It outlines how the county council will become a 'dementia friendly' organisation by ensuring our staff will have had dementia awareness training, its working carers policy will be reviewed and it will give people living with dementia and their families more opportunities to share their views about services they use."

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School project inspires beach lover Drew to organise clean-up

Environmentally-aware youngster wages campaign to tackle plastic pollution

Report by **Henry James**

A YOUNGSTER at a West Lancashire school has organised a beach clean-up to highlight the problem of single-use plastic pollution as part of a school project.

Drew Mangan, a Year 8 pupil at Scarisbrick Hall independent school, was set a project to run a campaign on a topic that she feels passionate about.

The 12-year-old from Southport said: "To get into Year 9 I have to fully run a campaign for a topic that I feel passionate about. I have chosen the effect that single-use plastic pollution has on the environment and in particular the ocean.

"This just happens to be very topical at the moment but trying to reduce plastic pollution is so important to me because for all my life I have lived by the coast and love it so much.

"Our family spends every summer by the sea and last summer I even learned to surf.

"Plastic pollution in the ocean is so important because it is a worldwide issue and I don't want plastics to threaten the seas around us anymore.

"Did you know 100,000 collections of single-use plastics is equal to 100,000 sea mammals killed every year?

"Did you know that in the last few years a whale beached on the Isle of Skye and when it was autopsied it had four kilos of plastic waste inside of it?

"We use seven million single-use coffee cups daily in the UK alone and 30 million plastic bottles.

"Single-use plastic pollution is one of the largest threats facing mankind today. Micro plastics once broken down into fragments are a menace to the ocean. Plastic takes decades or even centuries to disintegrate into tiny pieces but it never completely disappears and the encounters that sea life have with plastic are often fatal."

And Drew aims to educate younger pupils at the school in Southport Road, Scarisbrick - from reception to Year 6 - about the problem.

Scooter Mart on Lord Street, Southport donated some grabbers to help her with her efforts on Ainsdale beach and she intends to contact her local MP for support. She is also planning to create social media pages to highlight the issues and to contact local businesses like Costa Coffee to trial customers using their own reusable coffee cups.

Closer to home, she intends to ask her headteacher what plans there are to support the reduction of single-use plastics in school and she is urging people to recycle in the proper way and to throw their litter in the bin.

Drew added: "People could perhaps consider reverting back to ordering milk from their local dairy who supply it in glass bottles. Also it would be helpful to stop using straws and use reusable bottles instead.

"It will be my generation and subsequent generations who will be affected by this and we need to do something about it now."

Drew Mangan during the beach clean up she organised

Transport manager handed year's ban for drug-driving

A TRANSPORT manager has been banned from driving for 12 months after pleading guilty to driving while unfit through drugs.

Mark Hills, 40, of Turnpike Road, Aughton was brought to the attention of police after his van collided with a traffic signal at the junction of Green Lane and Liverpool Road South, Maghull, on September 16 last year.

When he appeared at Sefton Magistrates Court prosecutor Mike Lloyd said the traffic signal was in the centre of the "pedestrian refuge." He said that Hills told officers when they arrived that he'd had two cans of cider, and had also taken sleeping tablets.

Subsequent blood tests showed the presence of cocaine, benzoylecgonine (a by-product of cocaine), and a sedative which would "likely affect his driving."

Mr Lloyd informed the court that Hills had convictions for drink-driving from 1998 and driving while disqualified in 2000.

Representing himself, Hills, said: "It was just an error of judgment."

The magistrates fined him £120, ordered that he pay costs and victim surcharge of £115, and banned him from driving for 12 months.

Civic couple 'on parade'...

THE Mayor and Mayoress of West Lancs, Councillor Neil and Mrs Julie Furey, will attend the Ormskirk District Scouts' annual St George's Day Parade at St Anne's Catholic Primary School, Ormskirk on Sunday, April 22 at 1.30pm

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Officials of the West Lancashire Freemasons hand over the motorbikes

Freemasons present motorbikes worth £40,000 to Blood Bikes volunteers

Generous donation will help group maintain their role delivering vital supplies and equipment to hospitals throughout region

Report by **Henry James**

MEMBERS of a volunteer group, which saves the NHS money by delivering vital blood supplies and other items to hospitals throughout the region free of charge, have been presented with two brand new BMW R1200RT-P motorbikes by the West Lancashire Freemasons.

Provincial Grand Master, Tony Harrison and assistant Provincial Grand Masters, David Winder and Kevin Poynton, along with Steve Kayne, chief executive of the West Lancashire Freemasons' Charity, formally handed over the two new liveried bikes, worth more than £40,000, to officials of the North West Blood Bikes (NWBB) at their headquarters in Bamber Bridge.

Grateful

Tony said: "I am delighted to be able to present these motorbikes on behalf of the Freemasons in West Lancs to North West Blood Bikes as they will help them in the vital role they play in supporting the NHS in their work."

Simon Hanson, the Blood Bikes' fleet manager, said: "Since my appointment I have been working with Honda, BMW and multiple charities and local businesses to replace the fleet of 12 liveried motorbikes, as they had mostly done 80,000 miles-plus and in some cases were more than eight years old when I was appointed.

"This very generous donation by the Freemasons in West Lancashire completes my renewal plan and they, along with the other new motorbikes, will greatly reduce the number of breakdowns we have been having with our old fleet.

"It will also increase our ability to support the NHS out of normal hours (7pm to 2am) in the week and 24/7 at weekends."

Simon then presented Tony and Steve with a certificate of thanks for the donation of the two motorbikes.

Paul Brooks, NWBB chairman, added: "I am really grateful for the support we receive from all our sponsors, especially from the Freemasons, as they have not only donated these two wonderful motorbikes, but many of their members support us by giving their time working as NWBB riders."

North West Blood Bikes respond to more than 1,000 calls a month with their 350 volunteers using their own motorbikes and cars as well as the liveried motorbikes.

The 12 liveried motorbikes are used for calls that involve motorway, long distances, rush hour journeys and calls moving urgent blood samples and other lifesaving items.

The Blood Bikes have five bases in the region. These are North (Lancaster, Kendal and Barrow); Central (Preston and Chorley); West (Ormskirk and Southport); Flyde (Blackpool and Flyde); and East (Blackburn and Burnley).

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Fixing the Tory Mess

Leader of the Labour Council, **Cllr Ian Moran**

After 13 years of Tory mess under the leadership of 'Our West Lancashire' boss Cllr Adrian Owens and Cllr David Westley, a Labour administration with real ambition for West Lancashire has, since 2015, been getting on with the job of improving council services to support residents and businesses across the borough.

Under the Tories' spineless rule, West Lancashire was heading for real decline.

Burscough canal-side

Moor Street, Ormskirk

A failure to work constructively with the local university led to a surge in Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs). There was little investment in the town centre or its once vibrant markets, and no support for the night-time economy. The council's sports centres and swimming pools were neglected, with no plans for the future - one sports centre was simply closed and left to rot, then burned down.

The council rolled over for big developers in Burscough and other areas and, but for persistent opposition from Aughton residents and a strong legal challenge from the current Labour team, a huge swathe of Greenbelt at Parrs Lane in Aughton would have been lost to Tory incompetence.

Growing problems with flooding and road decay were greeted with a political shrug of the shoulders by a Conservative Administration too busy fighting each other and splitting into different factions and parties to bother with the concerns of West Lancashire residents. One Conservative even broke away and set up his own conservative 'Our West Lancashire' party as an ego-stroking exercise.

Under Labour's determined leadership, the shared housing market has peaked as the university builds more accommodation on campus and landlords start to consider selling housing back to local families and first-time buyers.

Ambitious investment in Ormskirk Town Centre, especially through the purchase of Wheatsheaf Walks, has once again created a real buzz in the town. A successful pilot for a Night Market, and the encouragement of new events such as the Gingerbread Festival have created further opportunities for local shops and restaurants. New premises are opening for business, especially around the improving Moor Street area, while the new parking arrangements have been widely welcomed by the town's businesses. There has also been investment in Burscough's attractive canal-side offer and plans for major investment in sports facilities are coming together.

Parking change is great for town

It's so motivational to see our West Lancashire Borough Council listening to the town's entrepreneurs.
The newly agreed car park charging strategy will be a massive boost for us town centre businesses, 'two-hour time pressure' on shoppers and visitors will be a thing of the past.
Coming to town will be a better experience, encouraging fuller enjoyment of the place we all love.
Great work, and credit where it's due.

Dave Coyle,
Ormskirk Business Action Group

At the same time, Labour has set up a development company to address the housing problems across the borough and is planning for the long term with a 30-year Local Plan under development and consultation. The Local Plan will seek to capture opportunities for high quality employment growth while meeting the inevitable challenges of climate change. The Tories have walked out on this process, just as they walked out of the Council Chamber in October, in flagrant disregard of their democratic duties.

Labour is also challenging the privatised utilities company to make proper investment in drainage and pumping facilities, and has set out its stall against Fracking, while the opposition parties sit on the fence, failing to take any stand to protect residents' health and well-being.

Conservative Councillors abandoning the chamber during a debate

In short, while the opposition parties bicker and talk down West Lancashire, Labour is getting on with the job. We're ambitious for health, ambitious for jobs and business, ambitious for transport, ambitious for families.

We're ambitious for West Lancashire. We hope you'll vote Labour on Thursday May 3rd, so that we can keep on cleaning up the Tory mess.

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Police commissioner welcomes £9m fund to tackle cybercrime but says it's only a start

'a challenge of this scale needs a sustained national effort...'

Report by **Henry James**

LANCASHIRE'S Police and Crime Commissioner, Clive Grunshaw, has welcomed the announcement of a new £9m fund to fight cybercrime as a 'start' to tackling what he called 'one of the biggest challenges facing policing.'

Home Secretary, Amber Rudd, announced the funding at the National Cyber Security Centre's CYBERUK conference in Manchester.

Mr Grunshaw, who is also the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners' national lead for fraud and cybercrime, said: "Online crime now accounts for more than half of all crime committed every day and this is set to grow rapidly, so the way we tackle crime has to change as online criminals attempt to stay one step ahead in the constantly evolving digital world.

Clive Grunshaw

"Whether it's illegal activities hidden in the dark web or brazen scams, robbing victims of their life savings, forces across the country need the resources which allow them to tackle online criminals on both a local and national scale.

"This announcement of dedicated resources and money for local responses is a welcome start, but a challenge of this scale needs a sustained national effort to take on those who use cyber space to commit often extremely serious crimes, and there is more to be done to strengthen the links between local forces, regional hubs and national agencies.

Demand

"It is also crucial that public and private sector work with law enforcement agencies to prevent individuals and businesses becoming victims and to tackle this problem together.

"Commissioners and police forces are seeing increased demand up and down the country for a response to cybercrime and we will look forward to working with the Home Secretary and national agencies to ensure a joined up policing response and better protection for the public."

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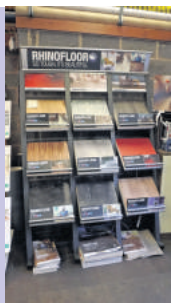

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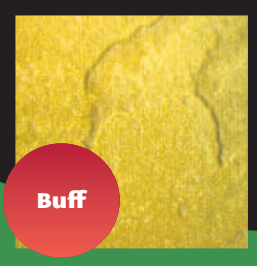

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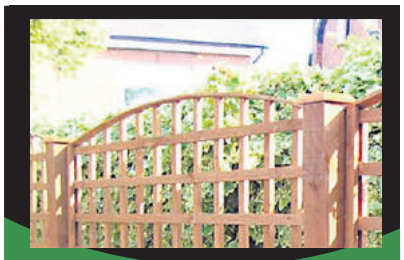

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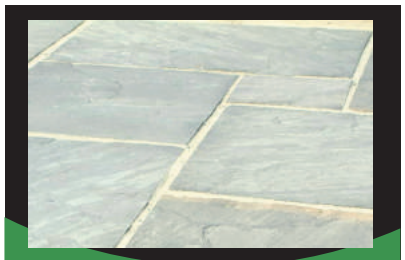

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Trust fund legacy provides £3,000 donation for 'growing' charity

A WEST Lancs charity which organises fitness activities for young people and adults with learning disabilities has been handed a welcome cash boost.

Burscough-based Sporting Challenge received a £3,000 donation from a trust set up by a Lancashire businessman who died in 1981.

The William Openshaw Street Trust, which makes grants to registered charities working in Lancashire (as defined before the 1974 boundaries changes) and Jersey in the Channel Islands, was established by a bequest of £3.5 million by a businessman from Bury.

Edward McCarthy, Sporting Challenge Activities Organiser, said: "On behalf of Sporting Challenge I wish to thank the trust for their most generous funding award.

Support

"Our numbers are growing and the majority of new members are aged 16 to 22 which is a key area we need to support and this number is set to grow even further.

"We are working with Lancashire County Council to provide support and sessions for these transition-aged adults as this can be a difficult time for them and their families.

"There is a lot of change and they can easily lose friendships as they move from school or college. Our group can help people make new friends, grow in confidence and keep fit and healthy."

Anyone wanting more information about the group can email Edward at EMSS@gmail.com or ring 07971 299606.

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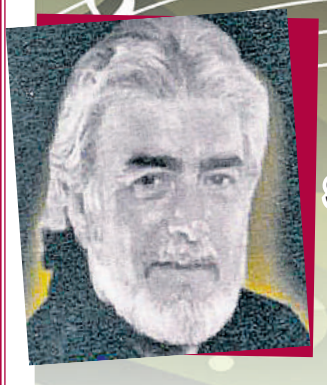

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The cast of West Side Story including Performing Arts students from Edge Hill University

Opportunity knocks for budding peformers

Fund gives Edge Hill students chance to shine in special celebration of classic musical

A GROUP of Performing Arts students from Edge Hill University have taken part in a critically acclaimed production of *West Side Story*, thanks to the university's Student Opportunity Fund.

The performance at Buxton Opera House marked both the 60th anniversary of the musical's Broadway opening and the 100th anniversary of the birth of its composer Leonard Bernstein.

Chief executive of Buxton Opera House, Paul Kerryson, felt *West Side Story* would be the perfect show to celebrate both milestones and to give aspiring young performers an opportunity to shine.

He said: "We have taken people who may never have been on the stage and turned them into performers, and that is something I am really proud of and I hope they are too."

Amazing

Open auditions for the production were held in October, and joining the 50-strong cast were second-year Musical Theatre students Luke Fraser, Sean Roberts, George Coubrough and Naomi Athay.

Naomi said: *"West Side Story* was fantastic, I met some wonderful and very talented people. "The production as a whole was amazing, to work with such a talented team was incredible. I would love to work with them all again"

Debbie Norris, senior lecturer in Dance at Edge Hill who choreographed the musical, said: "The students gave some outstanding performances and brought enthusiasm and passion to the stage, as we have come to expect from our students in the Performing Arts Department.

"The director Paul Kerryson noted their dedication to travelling the 100-mile round trip to Buxton for rehearsals each week. And support from the university and the Student Opportunity Fund made the experience financially possible.

"For Edge Hill students and myself, being part of this critically-acclaimed production was a real privilege and a wonderful way to celebrate Bernstein's phenomenal influence on Musical Theatre."

The Student Opportunity Fund allowed the students to travel from Ormskirk to Buxton for auditions and paid for their accommodation for the week while the show was on.

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MP's office signs up to Parkinson's charity's workplace training initiative

ROSIE Cooper marked World Parkinson's Day (Wednesday, April 11) by pledging to help improve the lives of sufferers of the degenerative nervous disorder.

The West Lancs MP's office has signed up to take part in Parkinson's in the Workplace training offered by research and support charity, Parkinson's UK.

The training aims to raise awareness of the challenges people with Parkinson's face and the push for greater awareness is part of the charity's activity to encourage people to Unite for Parkinson's, as a survey found that 32 per cent of people with Parkinson's have been stared at in public and 11 per cent have been laughed at. In addition, 32 per cent of people do not feel that their symptoms are socially acceptable.

Parkinson's affects 145,000 people in the UK, which is one in 350 people in West Lancashire. With the number of people affected expected to increase by a fifth by 2025, the charity is aiming to change attitudes about Parkinson's to make life better for everyone living with the condition.

Through the training, Ms Cooper's office will learn more about the condition and the complex symptoms people face, as well as how to recognise and best support constituents with Parkinson's.

Rosie Cooper is supporting the Parkinson's UK workplace training initiative

Rosie Cooper said: "It is shocking that people with Parkinson's face so many barriers, including being mistaken for being drunk, when out in public.

"My office staff and I want to take the training so that we are all better equipped to improve the lives of everyone affected by the condition in West Lancashire and better understand the issues faced by those who come to me for advice and support."

Steve Ford, chief executive of Parkinson's UK, said: "We are thrilled that Rosie Cooper MP and her team have signed up to our Parkinson's in the Workplace training.

"Lack of public understanding can make simple things like getting the bus, going to work, or even heading out to the pub with friends daunting for people with Parkinson's.

"That's why one small action like signing up to learn more about the condition can have a big impact on people with Parkinson's.

"We look forward to seeing the difference Rosie's support can make for her constituents in West Lancashire."

Rosie Cooper is also backing a petition from Parkinson's UK calling for more organisations to sign up for the training.

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Care home's £225 boost for couple's Alzheimer's Society fundraising bid

A COUPLE'S bid to raise funds for the Alzheimer's Society received a £225 boost following an event at the Abbey Wood Lodge care home in Ormskirk.

Jen and Dave Roberts, whose relative is a resident at the home, will be doing a sponsored midnight climb up Mount Snowdon on Friday, June 8 in aid of the dementia charity.

To help the couple's sponsorship drive the County Road venue held a coffee morning and raffle, followed by an afternoon sing-along with vocalist Jeff Corrigan and attended by the Deputy Mayor and Mayoress of West Lancashire, Councillor Noel Delaney and Mrs Ann Stubbert, and Mayor of Maghull, Councillor June Burns.

Jen Roberts said: "Thanks to the care home manager, Sharon Hall and the Abbey Wood Lodge team for the lovely afternoon."

Anyone wishing to donate to Jen and Dave's appeal can do so at www.justgiving.com/fundraising/dave-jen-roberts

● **RIGHT: Organisers and guests at the Abbey Wood Lodge fundraiser with singer Jeff Corrigan (centre) and Jen and Dave Roberts (2nd & 3rd left) who are also taking part in the Snowdon Midnight Challenge.**

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Champion LETTERS to the Editor

Clare House, 166 Lord Street, Southport PR9 0QA
tel 01704 392 400 email editor@champnews.com

Condition of roundabout is potentially dangerous and damaging to vehicles

AS I consider myself a responsible driver I felt it only right to report the condition of the roundabout at Hall Lane and Lowry Hill Lane, Lathom, to the council as the potholes surrounding it now fall into double figures.

I commute this way every day and on the return journey to Skelmersdale navigating this roundabout is extremely uncomfortable and no doubt damaging to my car.

The only way to avoid this is to drive straight across the mini roundabout which, at busy times, creates other problems and can be highly dangerous.

Imagine my surprise to get the following response from the council: "Based on officers inspecting the roundabout recently after intervention level pothole defects were repaired (really?) it was decided that no further work at the roundabout was necessary as the road is in satisfactory condition."

I feel sure many other readers like me will disagree.

I also reported the condition of Spa Lane, to which I got a similar response.

In order to safely navigate this road it is essential to drive with the central white lines down the middle of your car which can be extremely dangerous.

It is only a matter of time before there is a serious accident on either of these routes as drivers concentrate on avoiding damage to their vehicles through potholes only to find themselves involved in an RTA.

Andrew Mitchell, by email

Council should be more vigilant about graffiti at play areas

MY wife has just informed me that, having just returned from the children's playground and skateboard area in Birch Green, she had to try and explain to our five-year-old grandson and his little friend what the picture was on one of the ramps.

Basically it's a drawing of a person with male genitalia for eyes and nose, breasts and a penis urinating with an offensive two-word term referring to breasts written alongside.

There is a camera pointing straight at the playground on the opposite side of the road so the taxpayer-funded council has no excuse for not knowing who did it, or at least not knowing that it is there.

No doubt, the excuse will be 'government cuts' but that should not be accepted.

Children should be the first consideration when budgets are allocated.

The council should ensure that drawings like that in areas like that are removed straight away and, even better, the culprits identified and 're-educated'.

If this correspondence finds its way into print and asterisks are deemed to be necessary then no further explanation is necessary.

David Symons,
Ashurst, Skelmersdale

Easter closing is the law, Ron...

I DON'T know where Ron Webster (Letters, April 11) has been living but the Concourse and Asda have not opened on Easter Sunday for many years.

They cannot, by law. Only small shops can and their opening times are usually restricted.

At one time only fishmongers were permitted to open on Good Friday, as I remember, and then only in the morning.

DWS, Skelmersdale

PICTURE of the week

Amphibian and reptile conservationists Fiona Sunners and Andrew Hampson search Ainsdale sand dunes during last Saturday's Gems in the Dunes event, one of 19 national 'Back from the Brink' projects aimed at saving our rarest wildlife species from extinction. Picture by Martyn Snape.

New bin system is a waste of money

HOW l agree with all the letters about the brown bins!

Why do we have to have another bin? And green has always been associated with gardens while brown seems much more like cardboard but it's still just another ugly bin!

How can this be saving the ratepayers' money? They must cost a fair amount. I feel sure it could be spent much wiser.

The council must sit around the table wondering what next to spend our money on.

J. Jones, Aughton, by email

I've had to pay for a new brown bin *and* garden waste collection

CAN I point out to Arthur Welch (Letters, April 11) that because I didn't subscribe to the garden collection scheme last year I have had to not only purchase a new brown bin for £25, but also paid £30 for garden waste collection this year.

Also, without wanting to be flippant, my black bin, so described, has changed to grey overnight!

John M. Brown, Aughton

Anyone know what's happened to plans for a cinema in Skem?

IS there any possibility someone could provide the good people of Skelmersdale with information as to what is happening regarding a cinema?

Both the Concourse and St Modwen apparently have planning permission to build one.

The Light Chain signed a contract in March 2016 to build one on the Concourse and St Modwen have another contract with another chain.

Unfortunately, nothing appears to be happening with either one.

Is it also possible to investigate why the local council in their wisdom decided to give two companies planning permission to build a cinema within six months of each other resulting in legal cases?

Why could they not have told St Modwen 'no' but you can build a bowling alley? That way both companies would benefit.

Moira Warburton-Smith, by email

So glad to see I'm not the only grumpy old 'so-and-so'!

THERE are more important things, I know, but well done Jim Sharpe for highlighting a lack of standards and common sense (Champion, March 28) and also Allyson Drury (April 11) about the use of 'so'.

I'm obviously not the only grumpy old 'so-and-so'!

However, have you also noticed that every TV correspondent when answering a question invariably starts with 'Well...'?

Regarding Jim's thoughts on Brighton and Hove Council's enlightened ideas of modes of address, I do understand that modern English, unlike other languages, doesn't have different uses for 'you' - eg: singular, plural, polite, familiar.

However, when some schools seem unwilling to address their female pupils as 'girls', we see TV presenters using the irritatingly increasing practice of referring to their guests as 'you guys', when they may be all women.

This is annoying in the extreme.

I. Halliwell, by email

Lack of investment has seen our once lovely village become dirty and rundown

DURING the winter I have walked to work along pavements in Up Holland where there were rotting leaves, litter left partly by the bin and recycling men, broken glass, and ice due to water sitting on the pavements.

When there is heavy rain I get splashed by cars going through puddles on the roads as there is nowhere for the surface water to go as the grids alongside the road are blocked.

Now it is spring and I was hoping to cycle to work but the cycle lanes are full of rotting leaves and sludge, totally unusable.

Up Holland used to be such a lovely village, now it is dirty and rundown.

I regularly have to clear the sludge and weeds growing at the side of the road outside my house so the water can get to the grid, which I also have to unblock regularly otherwise my cellar floods.

How are residents supposed to have pride in their village if the local council is unwilling to maintain and invest?

The more my council tax goes up the less we seem to get!

V. L. by email

Residents urged to recycle more of their bathroom bottles and packaging

County council supporting campaign to get recycling rates back up

RESIDENTS in Lancashire are being urged to get into the habit of recycling more bathroom items to help boost the county's recycling rates.

A national study has found that making the extra effort to put bottles and packaging from the bathroom in the right bin is one of the best things people can do to boost recycling.

After a decade of strong growth, UK household recycling rates have levelled off, with Lancashire residents recycling 45.7% in 2016/17.

Now the county council is supporting a campaign aimed at getting recycling rates on the up again by encouraging people to adopt a simple system to make bathroom recycling an everyday habit.

County Councillor Charlie Edwards, Lancashire's lead member for health and adult services, said: "Everybody has an important part to play by making some small changes if we are to conserve our planet. We know people find it more difficult to recycle bathroom items, but we're asking them to make the extra effort as the benefits would be really big.

County Councillor Charlie Edward

"Most of us are in the habit of recycling in the kitchen where we have room for separate recycling bins, but nearly four in 10 people say they don't always recycle bathroom items and things that could be recycled end up in landfill.

"So much in the bathroom can be recycled - plastic shower gel and shampoo bottles, spray cleaner and bleach bottles, aerosol cans, and cardboard toothpaste boxes and toilet roll tubes.

"If more people recycled these things it could really make a difference and take Lancashire's recycling rates to the next level.

"And there are some simple things we can do to make it easy to recycle in the bathroom including hanging a bag on the bathroom door or putting items in a cupboard or drawer until there's enough to take to the recycling bin.

"You could also re-purpose a nice box or basket to collect your empties, get a small bathroom recycling bin, or simply leave them on the landing and take them to the main recycling bin next time you're passing."

To find out more about the Recycle Now campaign by the national recycling charity WRAP go to the website www.lancashire.gov.uk/waste.

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A clip round the ear 'ole helped to teach me right from wrong

WHAT has gone wrong with our children? Or, perhaps, what's gone wrong with our parents and teachers? Because something has certainly changed in recent times - and changed very much for the worse.

According to a teachers' union report, teachers and their assistants are regularly facing physical attacks these days from children as young as four. Apparently they have to suffer biting, hair-pulling and punching and pushing.

Other staff have been forced not to wear anything loose after pupils have attempted to strangle them, while an assistant head in Lancashire ended up in hospital after he was head-butted by an annoyed 14-year-old member of his class!

When I was at school, either aged four or 14, anything even approaching this sort of insurrection would - no, could - not have even entered my head or that of anyone I knew at the time.

But then, from the same horrific report, the NASUWT gave at least the partial answer as to why. The usual 21st Century answer. Why, 'insufficient funding' of course! Now why didn't I think of that?

Apparently there is a need to provide special needs assessments for children with a history of violence being placed in mainstream schools without enough support. They need 'special diagnosis'.

Well, probably a very few do. But, and I'll keep my head down as I suggest this, most of them would respond quite well to an old-fashioned clip round the ear 'ole.

I know this very idea is complete anathema to most folk these days but when I was at school, I, and most kids I knew, suffered at one time or several, a ruler across the hand, the slipper - or, heaven forbid, a trip to the head's office with the prospect of the dreaded cane.

The latter I never suffered, not because I was particularly good, but because I had enough sense to realise that being particularly bad resulted in something I had no wish to suffer.

Quite apart from that, there was my dad to consider too. I dread to think what would have resulted should a report ever have reached him that I had sworn at a teacher, let alone tried to strangle him or her.

A few years ago it was common to hear the mantra that if you hit your child, then he or she would grow to hate you and become a bully him or herself. Rubbish. My dad quite often did give me a clip over my ear, I did receive (usually, though not always deserved) a slipper across my bum, at both primary and secondary school.

And I grew up not only to love my dad - he became my best friend once I had grown up - but I respected my teachers and also learned the valuable lesson that not everything in this world is necessarily fair. In fact, I learned that if you did something sufficiently bad, something horrible was likely to result.

Importantly though, I didn't resent the punishment because from my earliest years I had been taught the difference between right and wrong and the need to respect others.

And I will tell you who is to blame for our present problems with children and young people generally. It is *my* generation - the children born shortly after the end of the Second World War; the young people who went in for flower-power, free love and Ban the Bomb. Half of us, I reckon, tried to grow up just like our parents. The other half rebelled. We were both wrong.

We were a generation who could change the ways we lived, because our parents had fought a war, at least partly to make a world free from tyranny. I reckon the trouble was that while some of my generation went overboard with the word freedom, others, like me, stubbornly tried to maintain the status quo.

Babies and bathwater come to mind.

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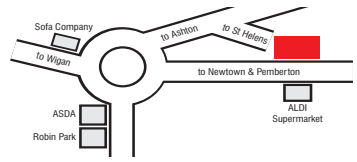

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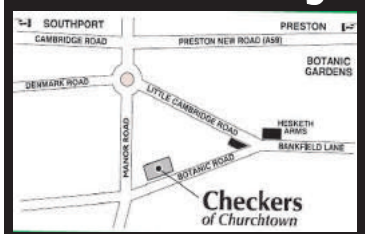

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Musical celebrations to mark church milestone

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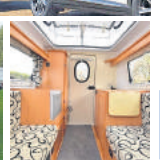

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Police plea for information after town-centre assault

Report by **Kenny Parker**

POLICE have issued images of three men they want to speak to in connection with a serious assault in Ormskirk town centre.

The incident took place at around 2.25am on Sunday, March 4 in Moor Street, close to the Clock Tower, when a man was the subject of a vicious attack by three assailants.

The victim, a 27-year-old from Liverpool, had earlier been in the Alpine bar on Railway Road where he had a verbal altercation with three men.

After leaving the bar he was followed by the men before being attacked and suffering a fractured cheek bone and fractured eye socket which required surgery at hospital.

As a result of CCTV enquiries, police want to identify the three men pictured in these images (right) in connection with the offence and are appealing to anyone with information to come forward.

PC Pete Chesters, of Skelmersdale Police, said: "We want to identify these three men in connection with a serious assault in Ormskirk.

"Despite conducting a number of enquiries we have yet to locate these individuals and would urge anyone with information to contact us.

"The victim has been left with serious facial injuries. I believe someone must know who these men are and can assist with our investigation."

Anyone with information can contact police on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or online at www.crimestoppers-uk.org.

Police are asking for help to identify these three men following a serious assault in Ormskirk town centre.

Force takes part in child safeguarding conference

REPRESENTATIVES of Lancashire Police joined other forces, senior safeguarding professionals from local authorities, schools, and leading child protection charity, The Lucy Faithfull Foundation at a major child safeguarding conference to consider new strategies to stamp out the creation, viewing and sharing online of sexually explicit images of children.

Staged at Leigh Sports Village and entitled *The Internet and Indecent Images of Children: Working Together to Make Children Safe*, the event was organised by TITAN, the Regional Organised Crime Unit for police forces across the North West, and chaired by Assistant Chief Constable of Merseyside Police, Alan Barr.

Delegates received presentations from a range of perspectives including the ex-wife of an offender, a police officer working in a specialist unit working with child victims and the voice of an offender.

Police also shared the findings and successes of a public awareness campaign launched in January.

More than 100,000 individuals from across the UK are regularly accessing indecent images of children online, according to police figures. To counter this, police forces in the North West joined The Lucy Faithfull Foundation's *Stop it Now!* campaign to tackle the demand for sexual images of under-18s online.

Using various media, it aims to raise public awareness and to educate offenders about the harm caused to children in the images. It also highlights the increase in police activity across the region to tackle the issue, driving home the consequences of their behaviour to offenders and making people aware that there is help available to stop such behaviour.

Alan Barr said: "We all have a role to play both individually and as organisations in creating safe online places for children and keeping children safe.

"We have had a significant amount of success but we must not rest on our laurels and we must continue to improve our understanding of the threat and the challenge this possesses."

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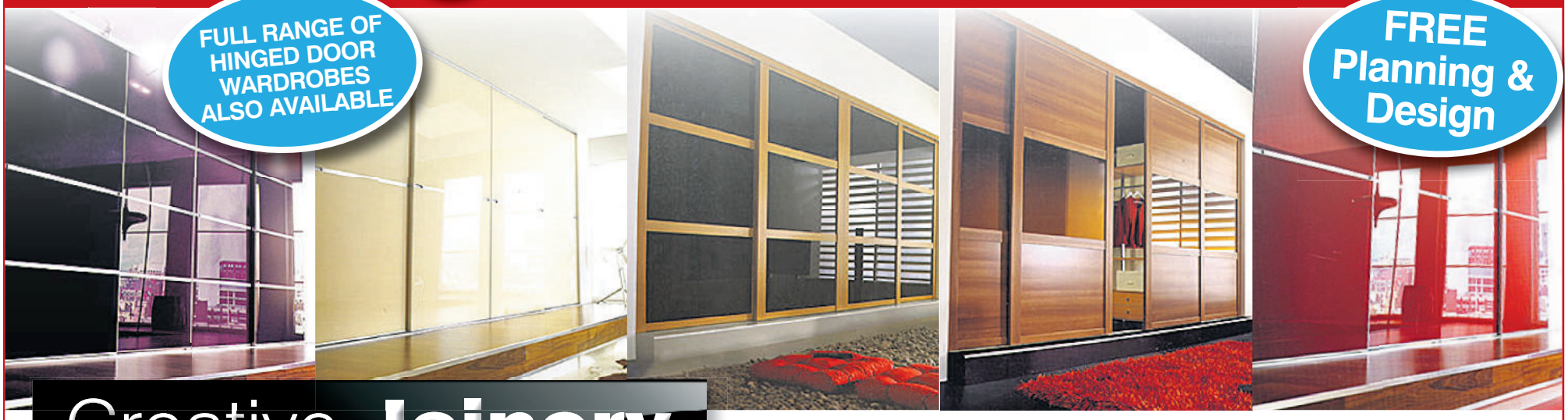

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Still time to make a splash for cancer charities by signing up for Swimathon

THERE'S still time to sign up to make a splash for two worthy causes in the annual Swimathon appeal.

This year the event, which raises money for Cancer Research UK and Marie Curie, will be held over the weekend of Friday, April 27 to Sunday, April 29 and as ever participants can choose from a range of distances. Individuals can opt to swim 400m, 1.5k, 2.5k or 5k, while teams can choose 1.5k or 5k.

Swimmers of all ages and abilities are invited to take part by being sponsored to complete their challenges at pools across the area, including Park Pool at Ormskirk and Skelmersdale's Nye Bevan Pool.

£48m-plus raised

There's also a chance to take part in 'My Swimathon' where participants can complete one of the individual challenges or set their own distance at any time between Friday, April 20 and Sunday, May 6.

Swimathon was launched in 1988 and since then more than 700,000 participants have dived into 1,000 pools across the UK, raising in excess of £48m for charity. Cancer Research UK and Marie Curie are the official charity partners of Swimathon 2018.

For more information or to sign up visit www.Swimathon.org.

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Edge Hill bidding for hat-trick of triumphs over rivals in sporting 'Battle of Lancashire'

SPORTY students at Edge Hill University are gearing up to bid for a hat-trick of triumphs when they take on the University of Central Lancashire in Varsity 2018.

More than 20 different sports teams will compete in the tournament to be held on sports facilities across the Ormskirk campus and other locations in the town, on Wednesday, April 25.

Team Edge Hill have defeated their rivals from Preston in the annual event for the last two years running.

Some 500-plus students from the two universities, both men and women, will take part in a range of sports, including rugby, football, cricket, netball, badminton, basketball and American football, in a highly-competitive contested dubbed 'The Battle of Lancashire'.

Dan Bocharnikov, Edge Hill students' union vice-president activities, said:"Varsity 2018 is going to be bigger and better than ever before, with more teams, new sports, and even a Quidditch showcase.

"We invite all members of the local community to come along to watch the matches, to see what Team Edge Hill is all about.

"Sports play such an important part in many students' lives during their time at Edge Hill, and we'd love for people in West Lancashire to become supporters, cheer us on and help us retain the trophy for a third year running."

The official timetable is available from today (Wednesday, April 18) at www.edgehillsu.org.uk/varsity, and all are welcome to attend the event.

Rugby is just one of the sports in which students from Edge Hill University will be bidding to overcome their old rivals from the University of Central Lancashire, Preston in their annual Varsity Games event.

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Primary school's orienteering team on course for county games finals

PUPILS at a West Lancs primary school are on the right track after clinching a place in what is described as the largest youth sporting event in Lancashire.

The orienteering team from St Michael's CE Primary in Aughton ***(pictured, right)*** *defeated 16 other schools from the borough in bitterly cold conditions at Tarleton Academy and will now represent West Lancs at the SPAR Lancashire School Games county finals in Blackpool this summer.*

Organised by Active Lancashire, the SPAR Lancashire School Games comprises a series of inclusive sporting events for all schoolchildren across the county.

More than 3,500 pupils at schools compete in a range of sports, including gymnastics, football, athletics, mixed cricket and touch rugby, to gain a place at the finals to be held at the resort's Stanley Park in July.

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'Bump and Beyond' event proves a hit

ORGANISERS of a pregnancy information evening for mothers-to-be have declared it a success and are planning a second in the autumn.

The 'Bump and Beyond' event was held at the premises of My Baby Scan at Burscough Wharf, which was set up by NHS trained sonographers Julie Mitchell, Alison Higham and Amanda Stewart, last year to provide services for expectant mums including ultrasound 3D and 4D foetus imaging.

It brought together an array of professionals showcasing their own services and products aimed at preconception, pregnancy and post-natal care.

Healthcare professionals, guests and visitors at the 'Bump and Beyond' event.

Work begins on £9.32m pylon refurb scheme

NATIONAL Grid has started work on a £9.32m project to refurbish the high-voltage power line that supplies electricity across West Lancashire.

Between now and November, engineers will be painting and replacing some steelwork on 102 pylons on a 35km section of overhead line that runs between the Kirkby substation and Penwortham, passing through east of Ormskirk and Burscough.

The line runs mainly in rural areas and site teams will be working during daylight hours. Electricity supplies will continue uninterrupted during the work.

Temporary

The power line was built in 1958 and the energy company says the planned work will make sure that it continues to work safely, efficiently and economically for future years.

National Grid project engineer, Martin Bretherton, said: "Our highly-skilled engineers will be working to make sure that this power line operates efficiently for many years to come."

As engineers work on the line, the power supplier says that people may see temporary roads and track ways created across fields, some tree and vegetation clearance, traffic management signs and during the work members of the team climbing the pylons.

For more information local residents can call National Grid's community relations team on 0800 8199 071 between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday. An answering service will operate outside of these times.

Long-serving lollipop lady says thanks, folks

A LONG-serving lollipop lady from West Lancashire has contacted the Champion to say thanks to her local community for all their love and good wishes following a recent presentation in her honour.

Brenda Adair has been helping children from Parbold Douglas CE Academy to safely cross nearby Lancaster Lane since 1972.

And in recognition of her efforts the 79-year-old from Parbold was presented with a certificate by Douglas Valley Lions Club and honoured in an assembly at the school, as reported in the Champ.

Brenda, who is Lancashire's second-longest serving lollipop lady, says she has received too many messages wishing her well to thank individually and asked to use the columns of the paper to express her gratitude.

She said: "I would just like to thank everyone for their love and good wishes. I don't think there's many people who can say they've enjoyed every single day they've worked but I have!"

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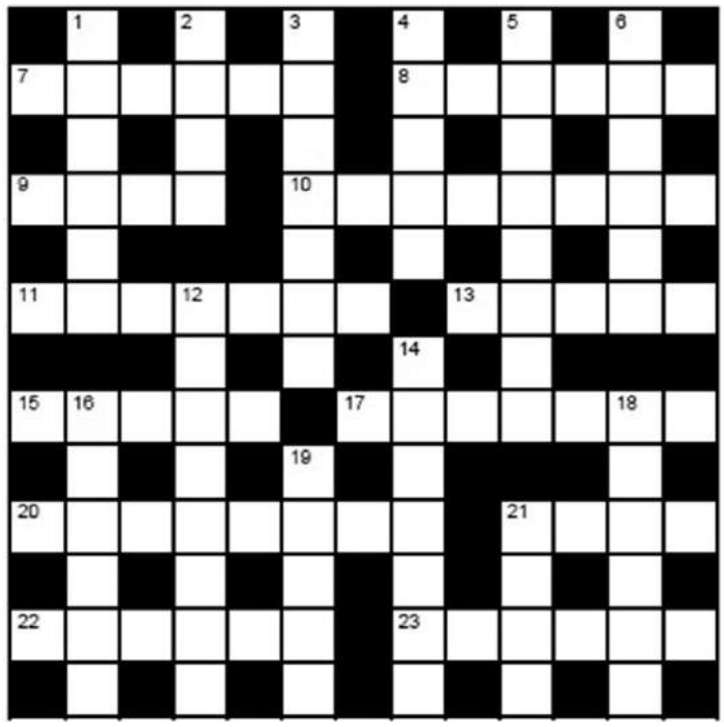

Last week's solutions:

Across: 7. Tirade. 8. Tremor. 9. Sigh. 10. Manifest. 11. Epsilon. 13. Major. 15. Erupt. 16. Engross. 18. Transfix. 19. Fall. 21. Cinema. 22. Cock-up.

Down: 1. Kiwi. 2. Cash dispenser. 3. New moon. 4. Atone. 5. Self-sacrifice. 6. Couscous. 12. Portrait. 14. Inexact. 17. Offal. 20. Laud.

ACROSS

7. Building where items of historical, artistic, or cultural interest are exhibited (6)
8. Made warm (6)
9. Remain (4)
10. Beholden (8)
11. Giving the impression that something bad is going to happen (7)
13. Hybrid big cat developed by breeding a male lion and a female tiger (5)
15. Public square in a city or town (5)
17. Graceful and stylish in appearance or manner (7)
20. Device used for protection from rain (8)
21. The sediment of wine in the barrel; dregs (4)
22. Injured party as a result of a crime or accident (6)
23. In a casual manner (6)

DOWN

1. Tradition (6)
2. To a high degree (4)
3. Showing a lack of respect for God or religion (7)
4. Of doubtful honesty or legality (5)
5. Wagering money on the outcome of an event or a game of chance (8)
6. Calm, tranquil (6)
12. City in Israel where Jesus spent his childhood (8)
14. An annual calendar containing important dates and statistical information (7)
16. (Of a liquid) completely clear and transparent (6)
18. Slender piece of pointed metal used in sewing (6)
19. A small group of trees or plants growing closely together (5)
21. Body of traditions and knowledge typically passed down by word of mouth (4)

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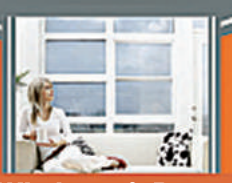

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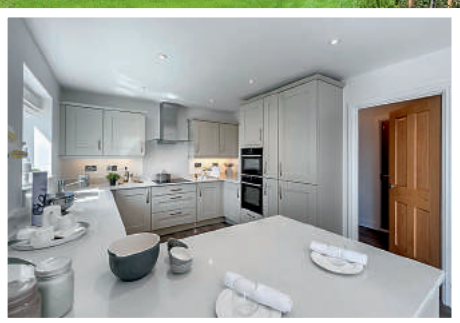

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Surreal evening of comedy, music and fun

JOIN Bill Bailey for a surreal evening of comedy, music and fun, when he plays Southport Theatre on Friday 27 and Saturday, April 28 at 8pm.

Larks in Transit is a compendium of travellers' tales and the general shenanigans of his 20years as a travelling comedian.

With musical virtuosity, surreal tangents and trademark intelligence, Bill Bailey tackles politics, philosophy and the pursuit of happiness.

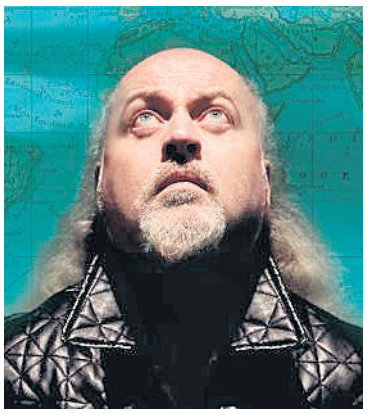
Plus, he fashions a symphony from a ringtone, tells the real story of Old McDonald, and re-imagines the Stars and Stripes.

Bill Bailey is a comedian, musician, writer, author, director, presenter and keen stand-up paddle-boarder known for his live shows such as Part Troll, Tinselworm, Qualmpeddler and Limboland and his work on the television programmes Black Books, Never Mind the Buzzcocks and QI.

Never afraid to push boundaries, in 2008 Bill wrote and performed his Remarkable Guide to the Orchestra at the Royal Albert Hall with Anne Dudley and the BBC Concert Orchestra.

This was broadcast on BBC Two in 2009 and went on to win two International Awards at the Banff International TV Festival.

A keen ornithologist, Bill Bailey's Birdwatching Bonanza was transmitted in January 2010 on Sky1 while, in 2016, Bill Bailey's Remarkable Guide to British Birds was published by Quercus Books.



Bill Bailey

Last year, Bill curated the Cabinet of Curiosities exhibition at Hull Maritime Museum as part of Hull's 2017 City of Culture, and walked 100 miles along the Icknield Way and the Ridgeway Path to raise money for Stand Up To Cancer. He kicked off 2018 filming acomedy drama In The Long Run created by Idris Elba for Sky.

The Cemetery Club was 'intelligent, and funny'

Review by **Ron Ellis**

The Cemetery Club by Ivan Menchell
Ormskirk Theatre Company
Toby Carvery, Ormskirk

A SOPHISTICATED Jewish comedy which brought laughter and tears in equal measure and provided a most enjoyable night's entertainment in this cosy bijou theatre.

A cleverly designed set featured an attractive front room of a house where three ladies meet each month to lay flowers on the graves of their respective dead husbands. Alongside were the three headstones representing the cemetery.

The acerbic verbal exchanges between the women, as they demonstrated how they adjusted to their bereavements, were worthy of Neil Simon at his best.

Barby Filllingham played Doris, a professional widow, emotionally chained to her lost love, whereas the glamorous Lucille (Pat Baker), dressed to the nines in a fake mink coat, couldn't wait to tell her friends about all her latest conquests, revenge for her late spouse's constant philandering.

The quiet Ida (Sue Morris) was ready to start dating again, but only if she found the right man. When along came Sam (Dave Smith), a lonely widower, she and he got together and started dating, much to Lucille's envy and Doris's disapproval.

How long are people expected to grieve? Doris and Lucille warn Sam off, saying it was wrong of him to pester Ida who 'needed more time to mourn'.

The widows are invited to a wedding as bridesmaids, Lucille replete in a hideous blue wig. Sam turns up with a younger woman, Mildred (Ann Todd).

The cast of The Cemetery Club

Ida is distressed and the three widows retreat back to the house and get drunk in a riotous scene where a few home truths are told.

This was a play that held the interest from start to finish, in turns both poignant and hilarious. A great success for the company whose next production in July is their version of the popular TV comedy, 'Allo 'Allo!

Star rating 7 out of 10. An intelligent, funny and heartwarming comedy.

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Gatecrasher Classical is coming to the Liverpool Empire

Gatecrasher Classical show coming to city in June

FOLLOWING on from the success of three sold out Gatecrasher Classical Shows in Sheffield, the next Gatecrasher Classical date is in Liverpool at the Liverpool Empire Theatre on Saturday, June 2.

The Gatecrasher Classical events in Sheffield, which sold out within a matter of hours, were spectacular experiences, taking the global brand to new heights and audiences alike, and have already joined the list of unforgettable experiences in Gatecrasher's 24 year history.

After receiving phenomenal responses from clubbers, artists and performers, with hundreds of calls for Gatecrasher Classical in other cities, Gatecrasher are set to bring their Classical events to a wider audience in cities with a rich musical heritage and Liverpool certainly has that. Famous for the Fab Four, and more recently the UKs biggest dance music festival, it's a perfect city for the first classical event outside of Sheffield and the Liverpool Empire sets the backdrop for this exclusive show — Remade, Remixed & Recharged for June 2018.

Club will definitely meet Classical when Gatecrasher take over the Grade II listed building at the Liverpool Empire Theatre, which boasts the largest two tier auditorium in the UK, is famed for its architecture & Louis XVI style decor and has many curious features adorning the internal theatre walls.

Teamed up with Gatecrasher's next level production; this event will feature a full laser and light show synonymous with the global brand plus a full club sound system, creating an experience as you've never witnessed before.

Gatecrasher Classical Liverpool will see Gatecrasher up-the-ante further with the next Classical event promising clubbers a host of live vocalists and musicians, and some very special guests.

Alongside the track list of 24 years of Gatecrasher, curated by Gatecrasher's very own Scott Bond, the event will feature some of the biggest tracks of all time, which have become emblazoned in the hearts and souls of clubbers worldwide, and will be immortalized by the 40 Piece Gatecrasher Orchestra. Expect lots of hands in the air moments and one unforgettable experience.

Full show details will be announced soon.

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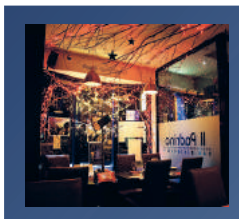
EVENTS - OUT & ABOUT

DINING OUT



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COMPUTING

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WANTED COMPUTERS and laptops for spares and repair 07388 282863

IBM R61I Laptop core duo 1.5Ghz, genuine Windows 10, MS Office, DVDRW, charger, As New condition and perfect working order £125 01704831977

IPHONE SE Brand new, unwanted upgrade, silver white, 32GB, unlocked, original box etc, bargain £215 01704831977

DIY

FIRE SURROUNDS 4 New pine veneer fire surrounds height 1055mm width 1105mm mantel length 1220mm made by Winter Browne £20 each. 07968914294

SCREWDRIVER SET Good quality screwdriver and bit set in case. 14 screwdrivers and 14bits covering a range of sizes and types. £10 01704 546978

12IN DIAMOND Cut grinder blade Hardly used great cond wrong size bought needed 10in one. SWAP or sale at only £10 Nooffers 07743101819

MODERN DESIGN New Sink Tap from Howdens. Type Reference, Lomona Chrome Single Lever Sink Unit Tap Including all Fittings £70.ono 0151 2341794

CENTRE DRILLS H.S.S B.S 1,2,3,5 double ened ombind drill and countersinks drill, body diameters 1/8" 3/16" 1/4" 7/16" British made £9 01704 874084

WASTE DISPOSAL unit, brand new in box, heavy duty motor, continuous feed operation, steel rotating shredder, large grind chamber £40 01704 874189

FLUORESCENT TUBES 8ft, 7 x 125w, new in wrappers, £20 the lot. Buyer collects, Bickerstaff area 01695 722219

CORK Roll, ideal for walls or flowers. Also adhesive cost £20.00 079344 96817

SCAFFOLD WANTED any type considered, cash awaits 07754 383614

ALUMINIUM LADDERS 3 sections of 11 rungs each section. good condition £80 07816985764

ALUMINIUM LADDERS 3 x 10ft extending aluminium ladder £70 07840295782

WARDROBE TRACK Brand new still in box, silver, size 142", can be cut down. . Surplus to requirements. £20. 07743537059

GATE HINGES Heavy duty, unused, approx 450mm x 50mm x 5mm steel £10/pair 01695 421655

GARDENING

DECORATIVE EARTREES 6 pairs of Fern-gully Ear trees £5 each £15.00 the lot 07870971766

TOMATO PLANTS Ready to go in the greenhouse. Small cherry and small yellow variety. Area near Halsall. 25p each. 07836248877

HANGING BASKETS 3x15ins easy fill baskets,12 plant openings (1opening missing)2xblack plastic open baskets14ins 1x black plastic coated metal 15ins bargain £8 Southport 07708836403

2 COPING STONES Victorian flat top and straight sides.Lengths 49 and 43 inches. Depth 11.5 inches and height 4.5 inches. £40 01704560150

FLYMO ELECTRIC hedge trimmer, HT450 £20. Subversive water pump and all connections, used once £40. Singer swing needle sewing machine, cabinet £40 01695 573988

BOSCH LAWN MOWER and Flymo electric rake, good condition, not needed now. £40 each or £70 for both 07902 130751

GREENHOUSE GLASS from aluminium greenhouse. 7 - 2ft x 2ft. 10 - 2ft x 18". £1 each & 80p each 01704 628420

PETROL LAWNMOWER Good working order. Also petrol mower for spare parts. £50 for both. Bargain 07590 336533

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GARDENING

PETROL ROTAVATOR very good condition with spare blades, absolute bargain at £50 07754 383614

ELITE GREENHOUSE aluminium 6x4, buyer collects £50. 01695 633171 or 07932 467298

GAS BARBECUE 2 burners used twice, comes with tools and cover £40 0151 9244787

QUALCAST MOWER 12" cut 300 style, little used £20 ono 0796 8267316

WHIRLWIND FLYMO Nearly new Hoover lawnmower £60 for both 07580187721

FLYMO HOOVER vac 280, used twice, £40 07708 058631

HOBBIES

TROMBONE WANTED Tenor trombone in excellent or very good condition. 0791667346

FOOTBALL MEMORABILIA Wanted players match worn shirts programmes tickets etc cash paid 01515319425/07773242918

LIVERPOOL EVERTON metal pin badges wanted cash paid 01515319425/07773242918

DARKROOM EQUIPMENT everything for black and white prints. Enlarger, clock timer, dishes etc. Old but all in working order. £70 ono 01695 578215

CROSS STITCH KIT An Introduction to Cross Stitch. Unused by Imagine That. Excellent condition. Book and sealed inner contents. £5 01704560150

BUGS COLLECTION full set of resin cased bugs and magazines.£60:00 01257 464461

CHILD'S GUITAR 1/2 size, reasonable condition £15:00 01257 464461

RUBBER STAMPS 30 wooden rubber stamps for card making and scrapbooking, various sizes, excellent condition, many are brand new £50 01704 870355

HOBBIES

CARAVAN Isabella awning, winter cover, wheel lock, hitch, stabiliser, inner tent - £195 the lot, will separate 0780 1617407

METAL LATHE Wanted. Small that can be moved with car. Any condition. Please call after 5pm 0151 5272392

POLO LIGHTER swift action petrol pocket lighter in original box lift arm action chromium pattern side panels £32 01704 874084

BEANIE BEARS 20 plus Ty Beanie bears. Some rare bears included. No ear tags . Pictures upon request. £20 ono 07989659615

VIDEOS 100 old videos, John Wayne, Bogart, Gagney, Bing Crosby and more similar. £20.00. Also easy listening LP's for sale. 07434841029

ALKO HITCHLOCK Al-ko Caravan Safety Hitch lock TYP 1 ET1811202 2 keys and Safety Ball excellent condition £60.00 0151 5265187

CARAVAN WHEELCLAMP Caravan security Bulldog Euroclamp comes with 2 keys, Excellent condition £40.00 0151 5265187

TROLLEY JACK Rolson 2 Ton Trolley Jack Brand New still in box never been used. net weight 8.5kg gross weight 9.5kg £20 0151 5265187

WANTED Bernina Sewing Machine. In full working order. 07743537059

ASSORTED DEMIJOHNS £1 each - 7 brown screw-top, 14 clear screw-top. All used. 01695 573291

IBENEZ V Dreadnought acoustic guitar, nice low action, fast neck, clean tone, new strings plus spare matching set £85 01704831977

HOME ENTERTAINMENT

DUNKIRK dvd two disc limited edition released earlier this year watched once and returned to box like new bargain £10 01704220356

DUNKIRK dvd BBC version staring Benedict Cumberbatch watched once and returned to box in excellent condition £8 01704220356

IT DVD latest release dvd scared of clowns you will be watched once returned to its box excellent condition like new £12 01704220356

KINGSMAN The Secret Service dvd blue ray and digital hd released this year watched once and returned to box £10 01704220356

KINGSMAN DVD'S The Golden Circle and just released The Secret Service great entertainment watched once and returned to boxes £15 01704220356

XBOX ONE fallout 4 game which includes fallout 3 free Brand new sealed £10 01704220356

PANASONIC DVDRECORDER Model DMR EZ47VEB record both DVD & Video also function to transfer VHS to DVD and opposite Full instruction manual/remote £50 01695 576078

TV STAND JOHN LEWIS Off The Wall Skyline Three glass shelves cantilever style cable management holds TV upto 55in W1000 D47H45cm £100 01695 576078

MINIBEAM PROJECTOR As new PB60G LG portable as new in box cost approx £700 high quality 3d no offers bargain £190 07743101819

TV 32INCH Siliver LG with stand, no hdmi, ideal for games console £10 07723197109

XBOX ROCKER Black gaming chair with speakers immaculate condition £35.00 07723197109

HOME ENTERTAINMENT

NAD AMPLIFIER Vintage NAD integrated amplifier. Model 312. Perfect working condition. £80 07709321569/01704870914

TV ARM Boxed, unopened. Cost £100 quick sale £35. Fits up to 65" TV extras too 07590 336533

HOUSE AND HOME

CANE CONSERVATORY SUITE UNUSED
Medium size. 2 seater sofa plus 2 armchairs. High backed. Deep filled cushions still wrapped. Cost £1495 accept £495 07544970776 Can Deliver.

STOKERS FLORENCE SUITE 3 seater, 2 chairs and storage foot stool, as new. Beige and cream £300, Matisse Large sideboard, (still selling in stores) £300.
Tel: 07715671256

STOKERS LEATHER 3 SEATER settee. Chocolate brown. Excellent condition. (Cost £1,300) £150. 01704 461406 or 07796 127150

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HOUSE AND HOME

DINING ROOM SIDE BOARD 5ft. Good quality. Excellent condition. £80 o.n.o 01704 461406 or 07796 127150

MAHOGANY FURNITURE drop leaf table 24inches x 37 inches folded, 60 inches x 37 inches extended. 4 chairs, Mahogany corner display cabinet, Mahogany wall clock £200 ono 01704 579640

NEXT SOFA 3 seater next silver chenille stratus sofa unused new cost £700 accept £200 01704 543916

HAIR STRAIGHTENER brush type in white Anti scald, Temperature control, Head massage function. New and boxed with instructions bargain £5 01704220356

WALL LIGHTS four modern double wall lights and fittings grey/silver metal ornate (difficult to describe) bought from The Range Excellent condition £40 01704220356

PUNCH BOWL Large size,with 12 cups,ladle,all on matching round tray,silver plated made by Viners.heavily embossed,nice condition,ideal for party`s etc. £75. 01704 530137

BOOKCASE MAHOGANY colour,6ft high X 3ft wide good quality and condition,not flatpack type,4 adjustable shelves. £45. 01704 530137

KENWOOD CHEF Food mixer,very old A700D model from the 1950`s,cream with green knobs,stainless steel bowl,working order. £50. 01704 530137

ORECK VACUUM Cleaner,cylinder type,light weight,with various tools,ideal for stairs or car. £15. 01704 530137

SANYO MICROWAVE brand new ,boxed,800w,white.£30 01704 548264

BLACK POUFFE Rectangular black easy-clean leatherette material Sherbourn pouffe. 18 inches square by 11 inches high. In lovely condition. £25 01704 546978

CEILING AND WALL LIGHTS Three branch ceiling downlighter and three matching wall lights. Modern bright brass finish on darkwood £40.00 01704 546978

CIRCULAR CEILING LIGHT 18 inch circular fluorescent ceiling light with two attractive interchangeable glass shades. Fits flush to ceiling. £15 01704 546978

RISE & RECLINER Excellent condition,hardly used.£85. 01704 575764

KINGSIZE HEADBOARD 5FT Metal Headboard, silver colour, modern design. Excellent Condition. £15.00 01695 422416

TV STAND JOHN LEWIS Off The Wall Skyline. 3 glass shelves Cantilever style cable management holds TV up to 55in W1000xH45xD47cm £100 01695 576078

CEILING LIGHT Linear light gold colour three Italian glass shades W37in drop min/max 19/25in suit hall also matching wall light £50 01695 576078

FIRE SURROUND Light wooden surround Modern plain style. W54in H47in opening to fit back panel & fire W32in H34in £45 01695 576078

SATIN CURTAINS Pale copper colour to fit pole 87in. Drop 84in fully lined pinch pleat heading matching cushions also for sale £75 01695 576078

CONSOLE TABLE NEXT Glass top antique gold metal base H30in W35in. £30 01695 576078

TABLE LAMP John Lewis 3 globe glass stand with neutral silk pleated effect shade H20in 01695 576078

WALL MIRROR Modern Silver framed mirror good quality W50inxH26in £15 01695 576078

LAMP TABLE Glass top modern design good quality H21in Top 26x22in £45 01695 576078

DINING TABLE Antique dark wood drop leaf dining table in good condition.Will seat six when extended. £100 ono 01695422006

SHOE TIDY Storage unit for 12 pair shoes. Front opening in light pine wood finish with seat on top. new condition £25 01695422006

WASHING MACHINE Bosch model varioperfect 7kg load in full working order only 19 months old.genuine reason for sale. £120 01695422006

BATHROOM WALL cabinet all wood Ikea antique pine, one door, three shelves. Good condition. 72x45x20cm. £10 bargain! 01695 725986

LARGE PEPPERMILLS As new, excellent condition. 15"/40cm clear shiny acrylic. £22 each new, selling both for £10, singles at £5 each. 01695 725986

SOLID PINE circular 40cm dia. revolving cheese board £6. Good buy. Excellent condition unwanted gift 01695 725986

BURGUNDY CURTAINS Pair 66x90 lined curtains. Smoke & pet free home. Lining has some water stains otherwise in excellent condition. Reasonable offers 07486131930

SINGLE BED Single divan bed with drawers and mattress and headboard included excellent condition hardly used £50 01704 533179

PINE BOOKCASE Bookcase in solid reclaimed pine with adjustable shelves in good condition. 51x98x31cm. Photos available. £75 07934482721

PINE DRAWERS Set of 4 drawers in solid reclaimed pine. 136x56x43cm. Good condition. Photos available. £150 07934482721

PINE DRAWERS Set of 6 drawers in solid reclaimed pine in good condition. 51x99x45cm. Photos available £100 07934482721

PINE WARDROBE 3 door 3 drawer wardrobe in solid reclaimed pine. 158x169x61cm. Very good condition. Photos available. £300 07934482721

GAS HOB Neff T63S46S1. Five Burners. Tempered Black Glass. Wok burner. Cast iron pan supports. 3 years old. Very good condition. £145. 07902143260

GOOD QUALITY Solid Mahogany Matching TV Unit, Sideboard & Coffee Table, High Polish Finish, Originally Paid £1500 will accept £400 Buyer to Collect 0151 2341794

HALL TABLES 2 Number Matching Semi Circular Hall Tables with Detailed Glass Inset Tops, Light Oak Finish, Any Reasonable Offer Accepted 0151 2341794

PAIR HANGING LAMP SHADES Pair of 2 tier hanging lamp shades in duck egg blue/turquoise colour . The fabric is suede effect. Unused VGC £8 01704560150

MODERN HOSTESS TROLLEY Fully heated cabinet on castors. Large oval glass dishes. VGC and good working order. £50 01704560150

SMALL TABLE Pine table 2 tier. Solid wood. Lamp table,small coffee table, end table etc.Height 49 Width 43 Depth 38 cm £9 01704560150

MIRROR Pine framed mirror. Unused. 38.75 inches x 14.75 inches. £9 01704560150

GPLAN SOFAS Two old gold and dark red small check pattern sofas. Immaculate condition. Fire certificate. Can split. Buyer collects. £200 01704573372

CABIN BED White wood with blue seat/couch which turns into futon for sleepover, desk area and chair included £200.00 07723197109

FEATURE CURTAIN Terracota check with tie backs and pelmet 40 x 120 £20.00 currently used in dining room of Victorian terrace 07723197109

BEIGE CURTAINS Fully lined 90 x 120 to puddle, immaculate selling due to house move £60 07723197109

COFFEE TABLE Small teak modern low coffee table with drawer £15 07723197109

3 BLACK UPLIGHTERS £10 each. Double fold up bed with headboard £60. Large brown framed mirror £30. All excellent condition, buyer to collect 01704 214058

VICTORIAN CHEST large mahogany chest, 5 drawers, polished wood, excellent condition £350. Wooden smaller drop leaf table, excellent condition £40. No texts 07564 223114

3-PIECE SUITE in immaculate condition, neutral with delicate leaf, two armchairs and two seater sofa which sits 3 65" width £400 07752 886940

BREAKFAST TABLE beautiful round wicker breakfast table plus 2 chairs, with matching coffee table, excellent condition £50 ono 0151 2870384

CEILING CHANDELIERS Three matching ceiling lights, two with five bulbs, one with three, brass and glass, very pretty, all £50 07977 344241

CHAISE LOUNGE New black velvet effect with roll cushion. L 5ft in perfect condition & unused. Sale due to house move. £140 ono 07765 202879

CURTAINS PAIR Gold/red act approx 7 x 11.5 beautifully tailored pinch pleat headings. Fully lined, pristine condition £25 01704 567616

DINING TABLE Elegant glass top table with four chairs, antique bronze legs with neutral covered seats, plus matching nest of tables, £500 07752 886940

INUS ANTIQUE brass effect 5 lamp ceiling light, product code 3663602 802211 still on sale at B&Q. New, still boxed £20 01695 573853

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HOUSE AND HOME

MARKS & SPENCER recliner lounge chair in ivory herringbone fabric, brand new, beautiful piece of furniture, £250. Photos available, Formby 07866 679499

NEXT OSLO Modular cabinet. Two shelves four drawers 84cm high 84cm wide 37cm deep, beech finish excellent condition £40 01704 574540

SKOVBY WALNUT Extendible round dining table, 6 cream leather chairs, immaculate condition, retail price £3,000 accept £399 Formby 07519436460

TWO CREAM faux leather dining chairs and oak dining table for 2 people, bargain £40. 2 seater jumbo cord sofa, charcoal £140 07933 796888

AGA COOKER Electric Range Master 110, very good condition, buyer collects £600 01704 892128

BUNK BEDS metal, including mattresses, duvets, pillows, all bedding £59. Standing fan £5 0151 5266667

IKEA BONDE TV Table and DVD shelf. 27cm high 78cm wide 50cm deep. Excellent condition £20 01704 574540

IKEA LACK Floating shelf 110cm wide 26cm deep. Beech finish complete with wall bracket and instruction £5 01704 574540

TV STAND large black glass, silver columns, 3 tier, fit up to 50" TV £30. May deliver locally 07549 609400

WALL CLOCK SEIKO QUARTZ with pendulum, walnut, perfect working order £30 ono 01704 893038

BLACK OTTOMAN Faux leather in good condition, excellent storage £25 ono 07765 202879

BUTANE 13KG gas bottle, about half full £10. Bispham area 0776 8882242

CLOAKROOM Corner unit with Basin and Stainless steel tap, white £25 079344 96817

DOLCE GUSTO Coffee machine for use with capsules and instructions £20 01704 220938

IKEA POANG Chair, beech frame with dark purple removable cushions £25 01704 574540

VAX POWER 8 vacuum cleaner, bagless with tools and washable filter £30 ono 01704 877395

WINE RACK solid wood with drawer, H 33" W 23", holds 30 bottles, £80 ono 0151 9282020

4 NEXT Mona dining chairs VGC £25 each 01704 571062

CHINESE RUG red, beige and green £75 ono 01704 587671

SINGLE 3 Inflatable mattress GDC £10 079344 96817

SMALL MAHOGANY Table with glass top £8 079344 96817

FINE CHINA 18 piece afternoon tea set 6 plates cups and saucers brand new still boxed may deliver £15 ono 01515263851

TABLE LAMP
A traditional oil style brass effect table lamp with unusual glass shade. £29.00

07434841029

VINTAGE SIDEBOARD Original British 1950s drinks cocktail cabinet/sideboard made by G-Plan, E Gomme, appreciating in value, Solid Wood. Nice condition. £75.00 07434841029

GAS FIREPLACE Modern white wooden mantelpiece with cream marble surround and gas fire. Originally cost £1000 now only £250. Excellent condition. 07858046342

CABINET Light wood cabinet 83cm length, 64cm height, 42cm width with glass top made to measure. Excellent condition only £40. 07858046342

SOFA SUITE 3 seater sofa and 2 seater sofa bed all in taupe colour. Excellent condition. Only £200. Phone 01704 211603. 07858046342

GRANDMOTHER CLOCK vintage/antique. Westminster chime, good time keeper, nice piece of furniture. May be able to help with local delivery £70 0151 9281955

DRESSING TABLE and mirror solid wood antique pine also two matching bedside three draw chests £85 01704 545461

HOUSE AND HOME

TEAK GPLAN Two bookcases and sideboard good condition £20 each £50 the lot. Buyer collects 01695 576229

NURSERY WARDROBE East Coast Colby Wardrobe white in excellent condition £50 01695 724999

COT BED East Coast Colby Cot bed white in excellent condition £50 01695 724999

NURSERY DRESSER East Coast Colby Dresser White in excellent condition £50 01695 724999

OFFICE CHAIR IKEA Markus tilt/swivel chair. Black.Good Condition £60 01704 807548

SOLID OAK Lamp/side table immaculate condition heavy and solid treated with natural wax beautiful piece of furniture64h x 52w x38d cm.£85 07729991241

MISC

ISABELLA PORCH AWNING 2.6mts x 2mts good condition £100 07879 203376

LEATHER JACKET Mens Real leather blouson style jacket. Medium size in air force blue little used £20 01695421338

DESK White (melamine) 4 raw desk 36" wide x 19" deep x 30" high £5 01695421338

DESK White (melamine) four draw desk 36" wide x 19" deep x 30" high £5 01695421338

SAMSUNG GENIO2 mobile phone in pink/black locked to Tesco. bluetooth/hands free/camera/more ideal first phone/child excellent condition Boxed/charger/instructions £15 01704220356

NOKIA 7373 swivel mobile camera phone in brown/gold with charger and leather pouch locked to orange in excellent condition bargain £15 01704220356

OLD WHISKY BOTTLE Brown glass Haig whisky bottle. Large size 4 pints (2.27 litres) sadly empty. £20 01704 546978

DARTBOARD and darts new good quality one as used on tele bargain £15 01515319425/07773242918

GOLF CLUBS used once reg flex Dunlop 65i irons 5-6-7-8-9-pw-sw Driver 3 Wood Hybrid Bag £65 01515319425/07773242918

NEW DARTBOARD and darts as used on tele in pubs good quality bargain £15 01515319425/07773242918

DARTBOARD & Cabinet Unicorn excellent condition bargain £20 01515319425/07773242918

VACUUM CLEANER antique hoover junior upright model in working order complete with tools in original box. Good museum piece. £50 01695422006

LG MINIBEAM PROJECTOR pb60g portable as new boxed perfect order cost about £700 high quality no offers check reviews bargain £190 07743101819

WANTED CARRY ME costume baby or trump cash waiting UPTO £20 depending on condition 07743101819

WANTED FIRE Tv box 4k new type cash waiting UPTO £30 As new or fire stick UPTO £15 07743101819

SUITCASE SOVEREIGN Black,trolley style used only a few times14x28ins (excluding wheels) ex condition £10 Southport 07708836403

BREAD MAKER Murphy Richards Icon stainless steel. Only used a few times, works perfectly. Includes instruction book plus hardback cookbook. £20 07486131930

LIVERPOOL PLAYHOUSE Love From A Stranger Wed 25/04/18. 2 excellent stalls tickets for the 7.30pm production. £25.00 instead of £45.00 07753 325725

PUB MIRROR Southern Comfort Mirror. Rich colours. Frame size,19 inches wide x 24 inches high.48.3 cm wide x 61 cm high. £35 01704560150

MISC

DECORATED PLATES Range of plates with printed classic pics. sets and singles 28 £120 01704 875561

GAMES BARREL REMY MARTIN, wooden with asstd games. £40 01704 875561

WHITE KNIGHT 3kg Mini Tumble Dryer Bought Currys £129 Used 3 times only Moving Abroad As New Condition With Hose £50 07875330671

DISINFECTANT Desguard 20, super concentrated industrial disinfectant/cleanser, suitable for restaurants/catering etc. Brand new unopened 5ltr pack, bargain £40 01704 876855

LARK CLASS Two man sailing dinghy complete with cover mast, sails and launcher, in sound condition £225 0151 3783077

SINGLE BED FRAME black metal, vgc £50. Builders wheelbarrow, metal, used £10. Gents wetsuit, used £10. Raleigh bike, 10" wheel, vgc £20 07749 113061

SLUSH MACHINE Snowshock twin slush machine, very good condition, used for family parties, cost £2100, accept £500 07469 717810

GARAGE DOOR remote control, never fitted, still boxed, cost £300, sell for £150 ono 0151 5271013

MIXED BLOCKS and logs, six bags £20. Two white moulded interior doors, 78 x 33", very good condition £20 07967 144971

SAXOPHONE Trevor James tenor, very good condition with case £200. 01704 509993 or 07963 223385

SPACE HEATER small size. Propane & electric powered. no bottle but can be seen working. £35 0151 5272392

FARM WEIGHTS 20kg and 5kg, £15. Bispham area 0776 8882242

WANTED Single divan bed chair or settee/pull out bed 07512086053

WHITE TOILET complete with cistern and seat, good condition £15 01704 808956

SKILL FOOT Spar, good condition £10 0151 9244787

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BOXES OF Various household items ideal for car boot sale £40 ono 01515263851

LEATHER BRIEFCASE A soft blk leather briefcase/laptop bag from John Lewis brand new, never used, unwanted gift, ideal graduation/new job gift £65 07921815283

VINTAGE JEWELLERY A range of individual vintage jewellery from different eras, styles, colours and prices suitable for races, weddings, proms etc £££vary 07921815283

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GOLD BRACELETS 9ct curb design, hallmarked solid gold 8 inches 7.5 or 15 grams, would make very nice presents £140 and £280 01704831977

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DEATHS

LLOYD MARION (THELMA)

My Mother's Hands

Hands that rocked
the cradle.
From the moment
of my birth,
Their tender touch
remembered
by those still here
on Earth.
Soft as silk
those hands,
That taught me
how to pray,
Banishing childhood
fears,
They soothed each
one away.
When I grew much
older
And troubles came
my way,
Those hands
caressing mine,
Did more than
words could say.
Mother's hands
were gentle.
They're missed
so very much,
I'd give the world to
feel once more
Their warm and
tender touch. Those
hands were full of
comfort
Now they lie at rest,
But memories hold
them close
To the ones they
served the best.
Good night, God bless
Mum, your loving
Daughter Janet

INMAN JOAN (R.I.P)

14th April 2018
Aged 77 years

Died suddenly but peacefully after a short illness surrounded by her loving family. Devoted Wife of Stan, much loved Mum of Lisa, Paul and Andy. Loving Nan of Katelyn and Millie. Joan will be greatly missed by all her family and friends.
Service at St John's R.C Church, Burscough on Tuesday 24th April at 10:30am followed by committal at West Lancashire Crematorium, Pippin Street, Burscough, L40 7SP. Family flowers only please, but if desired donations are being gratefully received for Macmillan Cancer Support. Donations and enquires to Howard's Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 9DR. Telephone: 01704 5000086.

DEATHS

HARRISON BETTY

5th April 2018
Passed away peacefully in hospital, aged 90 years, of Westhead

Much loved Mum of Joan and Ann, Mother-in-law of Philip and Paul, Grandmother of Hannah, Edward & Alice, Great-Grandmother of Charlotte & William, and Sister to Margaret. Funeral Service at St. James' Church, Westhead on Friday 20th April at 1.30pm, followed by committal at West Lancashire Crematorium, Burscough. Family flowers only please, donations if so desired for Aintree Stroke Centre and St. James Church Westhead. Donations and further enquiries please to Sally Hunter MLS Independent Funeral Directors, 20, Moss Delph Lane, Aughton, Ormskirk, L39 5DZ. Tel: 01695 424888

PARKER ELLEN

7th April 2018
of Holmswood peacefully in Park Grove care home
Aged 97 years

Dearly loved wife of the late Richard, much loved Mother of Ann (deceased) and Jane and Richard. Mother in Law of Claire and Phillip, dear Gran of Gordon, Helen,Catherine, Matthew,William and Hannah.Great Gran to Poppy, Molly and Abigail.Will be sadly missed by Family and Friends and all who knew her.
Funeral service and internment at St Marys, Rufford on Tuesday 24th April at 3pm.Family flowers only please.Donations if desired to Holswood Methodist Chapel or St Marys PCC Rufford Churchyard fund. Further enquiries to Cookson Tyrer funeral services,2 Smithy Walk,Burscough, L40 5UU. Telephone 01704 897770

DEATHS

KELLY LESLIE

9.4.2018
Passed away peacefully at Asmall Hall Care Home after a long illness

Beloved Husband of the late Patricia, much loved Father of Phil, Father-In-Law of Chris, Grandad of Lisa, Paul, Lesley and Jim and Great Grandad of Evie, Connie and Gracie. Our heartfelt thanks to all the staff at Good Companions and Asmall Hall for their excellent care.
The funeral service will take place at Southport Crematorium on Friday 20th April at 11.20am. Family flowers only but donations if desired to Imperial Cancer Research Fund. Further enquiries to H.Johnson & Sons, Funeral Directors, 147, Roe Lane, Southport PR9 7PW. Tel 01704 227067

HOLMES BRYAN

11th April 2018
Aged 85 years

Died peacefully at home after a short illness surrounded by his family. Loving Husband of Pat. Much loved Dad of Gary and Paul, Father-In-Law of Denise and Angela. Cherished Grandad of Nikki, Tom, Stephanie, Dan, Jack and Lizzie, Great-Grandad of Harry, Emily and Millie. Brother-in-law to Peter, Uncle to Paul, Cath and Anne. Bryan will be greatly missed by all his family and friends.
Service at Southport Crematorium on Friday 27th April at 3:20pm. Family flowers only please, but if desired donations are being gratefully received for Junior Diabetes UK. Donations and enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 9DR. Telephone: 01704 500086.

DEATHS

SETT YVONNE

8th April 2018
Aged 83 years

Died peacefully at home after a long illness surrounded by her loving family. Loving Wife of Pradip, much loved Mam of Marie and Stephen, Mother-In-Law of Tracey, cherished Mam-ma and Grandma of Dale, Adam, Dionne, Dalton and Demi, Great Mam-ma of Luca, Cole, India and Beau, loving Sister to Vera and a much loved Auntie. Yvonne will be greatly missed by all her family and friends.
Service at St John's Parish Church, Ainsdale on Monday 23rd April at 12:45pm followed by committal at West Lancashire Crematorium, Pippin Street, Burscough, L40 7SP. Family flowers only please, but if desired donations are being gratefully received for Spinal Unit Action Group and Blind Veterans UK. Donations and enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 9DR. Telephone: 01704 500086.

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CODY MARY

(nee McMANAMAN)

9th April 2018
Peacefully in hospital aged 87 years of Skelmersdale

The dearly loved Wife of the late Frank and beloved Sister of Vincent, Christopher, John and David. She will be sadly missed by all her family and friends.
Requiem Mass at St Richards RC Church, Skelmersdale on Friday 27th April 2018 at 11:00am followed by cremation at West Lancashire Crematorium, Burscough at 12:15pm.
All enquiries to Melanie Hardman at H Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors of Skelmersdale, Ormskirk & Scarisbrick. Tel: 01695 722122/720012

DEATHS

MCKNIGHT JEAN STELLA

8th April 2018
Aged 91 years

Devoted Wife of the late Roger. Jean will be greatly missed by all her family and friends, especially those of the golfing community in Formby.
Service at Southport Crematorium on Tuesday 24th April at 1:20pm.
Enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 9DR. Telephone: 01704 500086.

ADSHEAD JOAN (Nee Dix)

8th April 2018
Aged 81 years

Devoted Wife of Philip. Much loved Mum of Philip and Carolyn, Mother-In-Law of Ruth and Derek, proud Grandma of Stephen, Susan and Rachel.
Service at St Philip and St Paul With Wesley Parish Church on Thursday 19th April at 11:00am followed by committal at Southport Crematorium. Donations are being gratefully received in lieu of flowers for Cancer Research UK and The Children's Society. Donations and enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 9DR. Telephone: 01704 500086.

BALDWIN BRIAN

On Monday 9th April 2018
Aged 62 years

Absolutely wonderful Husband to Andrea. Amazing, loving and caring Dad to Rebecca-Jane. Beloved Son of Bill and the late Vera, Brother to Colin and Malcolm. Brian will be very sadly missed by all his friends and family.
Funeral service at West Lancashire Crematorium, Pippin Street, Burscough, L40 7SP on Friday 20th April at 1:45pm. Donations are being gratefully received in lieu of flowers for The Stroke Association. Donations and enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 1 – 5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 9DR. Telephone: 01704 500086.

DEATHS

LLOYD MARION (THELMA)

On 6th April 2018
Peacefully in Hospital aged 82 years

Loving Wife of the late Charles, devoted Mum of Janet and Susan (Deceased) Dear Mother-In-Law of Andrew, caring Sister and Aunt. Will be sadly missed by all her family and friends.
Funeral Service will take place at St. Helens Crematorium on Friday 20th April at 10:00am. Family flowers only please by request donations if desired for Queenscourt Hospice.
All enquiries to Margaret Whitelam Skelmersdale Funeral Service 29/31 Sandy Lane Tel: 01695 559868

MORT BILL

19.1.56 - 9.4.18
Died peacefully at home with the ones he loved

"If love could have saved you, you would have lived forever"

Funeral Arrangements are: The Church at Centre, The Ecumenical Centre, Northway, Skelmersdale WN8 6LU at 2pm on 25th April 2018 followed by West Lance Crematorium (Burscough) at 3:15pm

STUBBER RICHARD FRANCIS (RICKY)

Passed away peacefully in Wigan Infirmary on 5th April 2018

Loving Husband and Dad. Will be deeply missed by all his loving family and friends. A funeral service will take place at St. Helens Crematorium on 20th April 2018 at 11.30am. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired to Royal Albert Edward Infirmary c/o and all enquiries to W. Banks, Sefton Villa, Sefton Rd Orrell WN5 8UP Tel: 01695 622272

DEATHS

KERRIGAN JEAN

7th April 2018
Aged 95
Peacefully at Warren Park Care Home

Jean will be sadly missed by all her friends especially those who knew her as Auntie Jean.
Funeral Service at:- Blundellsands United Reform Church Warren Road Tuesday 24th April 2018 at 11.30am Followed by interment at Kirkdale Cemetery.
Jean loved flowers but if desired donations please to:- Sefton Mayoral Charities Fund Crosby Committee.
Further enquiries to:- Barringtons Funeral Services 28 Crosby Road North Waterloo 0151 928 1625

WATSON DOUGLAS JOHN

11th April 2018
Passed away peacefully at Beaufort Care Home

Dear Husband of the late Joan, and dear Brother of Muriel and family. Family flowers only please, but donations if so desired for Christ Church, Aughton.
For Funeral arrangements and further enquiries please contact Sally Hunter, MLS Independent Funeral Directors, 20, Moss Delph Lane, Aughton, Ormskirk, Tel: 01695 424888.

DEATHS

DISLEY GEORGE

Of Lydiate
Aged 92 years

Loving Husband to Irene, Dad to Geoff and Karen, Grandad to Rachel and Laura, Great Grandad to Lilliana-Mai. Funeral service to take place at West Lancashire Crematorium, Pippin Street, Burscough on Friday 20th April 2018 at 12:15pm.
Family flowers only please, however donations are being collected in fond memory of George to 1st Lydiate Scout International Fund, to support trips and events.

Further enquiries to Newland and Wilkinson Independent Funeral Directors, 311 Hesketh Lane, Tarleton PR4 6RJ. Telephone 01772 811165

IN MEMORIAM

WILLIAMS JILL (NEE BENNETT)

20th April

Loving memories of a dear Daughter, Sister and Auntie.
No longer in our lives to share
But in our hearts you will always be there
Your memory is a keepsake
From which we will never part
God has you in his keeping
We have you in our hearts.
Love from Mum, David, Nigel, Julie, Ian and families.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

CORRIN DAVID

Anne, Mark and Jane would like to thank all their friends and family for their words of sympathy, cards, letters and donations to the Stroke Association Research. Thank you to Father Godric and Father Boniface for their kind ministrations and all of Anne's Church for their support. Thank you to Dale Park Nursing Home, Southport for their compassionate care. Gratitude to the doctors and nurses involved in David's care at Southport Hospital. Thanks to Hurlston Hall for their hospitality. Finally gratitude to Claire, Dave and their team at Newland and Wilkinson Independent Funeral Directors for their wonderful care at such a difficult time.

To place a family **announcement** please call 01704 392392 or visit champnews.com

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

GILMOUR RONNIE

Thank you so much to all family, friends and neighbours who rallied round when they were needed, for the numerous sympathy cards, mass cards and letters, and all donations to Dementia UK during the recent loss of a wonderful and very much loved Husband, Father and Grandfather. Thank you to Father Des Seddon and all those involved in a funeral service which did him proud. Thank you to Devonport Funeral Services who did a great job with the arrangements and extra special thanks to all the staff at Care Concern NW who looked after Ronnie in his final month with such kindness and compassion. We will always be grateful.

FAWBERT JOAN

The family of the late Joan Fawbert wish to express their heartfelt thanks to relatives, friends and neighbours for their kindness, sympathy, cards and donations to Queenscourt Hospice. Special thanks to Doctor Bennett for his care and attention. Also thank you to all the team at Ainsdale Medical Centre, the Palliative Care Team at Queenscourt and Reverend Roy Doran for a comforting service, kindness and help to the family.

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We are looking for full-time (36 hours per week), part-time (24 hours per week) with flexibility to cover holidays and sickness.

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Closing date: 09/05/2018

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PUBLIC NOTICES

West Lancashire Borough Council
Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990 Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 - Article 15

APPLICATION(S) FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

2018/0284/FUL Proposed new build stables located to the east of the existing Harrock Hall at Harrock Hall, Harrock Lane, Wrightington.
The application affects a Listed Building.
2018/0285/LBC Listed Building Consent - Proposed new build stables located to the east of the existing Harrock Hall at Harrock Hall, Harrock Lane, Wrightington.
The application affects a Listed Building.
2018/0332/FUL Demolition of an existing rear porch and lean-to extension. Construction of a contemporary flat roof rear extension at 52 St Helens Road, Ormskirk.
The application affects a Conservation Area.
2018/0339/COU Change of use of a cluster of four agricultural barns into a single private residence including replacement of the roof with new slate tiles and rooflights; new openings in external walls; replacement windows and doors; repair and pointing of mortar; internally upgrade with new floor, internal linings, and the construction of a new first floor. Grading the ground levels to fall to the east of the barn to fall below internal ground level at Barn East Of, Lower House Farm, Lees Lane, Dalton.
The application affects a Listed Building.
2018/0340/LBC Listed Building Consent - Change of use of a cluster of four agricultural barns into a single private residence including replacement of the roof with new slate tiles and rooflights; new openings in external walls; replacement windows and doors; repair and pointing of mortar; internally upgrade with new floor and internal linings and construction of a new first floor. Grading the ground levels to the east of the barn to fall below internal ground level at Barn East Of, Lower House Farm, Lees Lane, Dalton.
The application affects a Listed Building.
The applications are available for viewing on the Council's website www.westlancs.gov.uk/planning. Alternatively, the application can be viewed during normal office hours at 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk and at 1st Floor, The Concourse, Skelmersdale. If you wish to comment on the proposal you can do so via the Council's web site, by e.mail to plan.apps@westlancs.gov.uk or in writing to Development and Regeneration Services, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, but these must be received within 21 days of the date of this notice quoting the application no. Any comments made will be available for public inspection.
Applications for Minor Commercial and Householder Development
In the event that an appeal is made against a decision of the Council to refuse to grant planning permission for the proposed development, and that appeal then proceeds by way of the expedited procedure under the written representations procedure, any representations made to the Council about an application will be passed to the Secretary of State and there will be no opportunity to make further representations.

John R Harrison DipEnvP., MRTPI Dated: 18th April 2018
Director of Development and Regeneration PDNOT933

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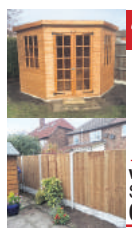

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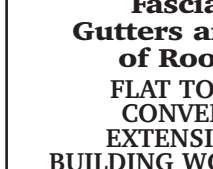

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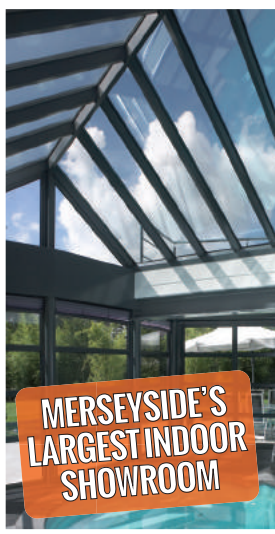

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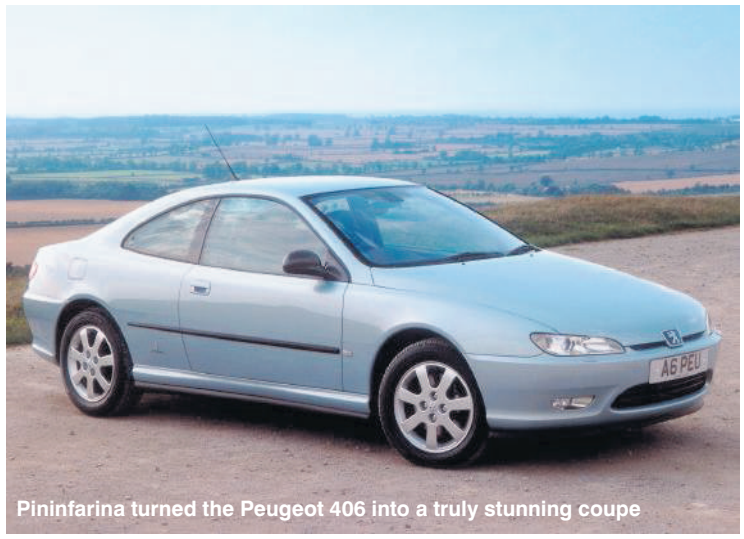
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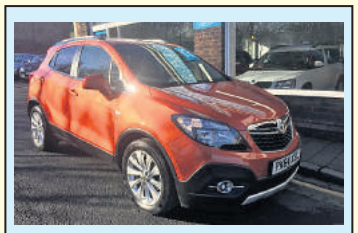
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A PAL of mine is currently perusing the classifieds for a Peugeot 406 Coupé. Hopefully, by the time you read this, he'll be the proud owner of one of these gorgeous Gallic two-doors.

Apparently Ford's Cougar, Vauxhall's Calibra, the Mercedes-Benz CLK and Volvo's C70, which all convey four adults with a reasonable amount of shove in the same sort of two-door package, didn't even make it onto the shopping list, because there's one thing that even today sets a 406 Coupé apart. It's the same thing that makes you lust after a Ferrari 458 Italia and why the Alfa Romeo 164 was always such a head-turner. It's also what makes my MGB GT so well proportioned.

It is – and petrolhead bonus points if you've already guessed it – having Italian design house Pininfarina sprinkle its magic on the cosmetics. Think of it as a sort of automotive Armani, turning the humdrum into handsome and making things of downright desirability when given a free hand. It's even had a hand in building cars, including Ford's StreetKa, but thanks to a tie-up with an Indian conglomerate it now wants to be a carmaker in its own right.

The business side of it makes sense. Mahindra is a big player in motoring but in the UK it's best known for its dreadful Jeep knock-offs – it has the money to take part in the increasingly lucrative market here in Europe for luxury offerings, but not the street cred. Citroen, for instance, has decided to take on BMW and Mercedes by creating its DS sub-brand, whereas Chinese conglomerate Geely have gone for the *Blue Peter* 'Here's one we made earlier' approach by snapping up Volvo and Lotus. But launching a brand with a name already associated with Ferrari's better-looking offerings is bordering on genius. All it has to do now is the opposite of what most glitzy product launches manage. Make sure it has the style to match the substance.

Automobili Pininfarina hasn't put out any pictures of what its new car looks like yet but if it's anything other than jaw-droppingly amazing I'll be disappointed. This is the name that not only turned the repmobile Peugeot 406 into one of the best-looking cars of the Nineties, but it's also behind the Ferrari Daytona, Testarossa and F355, the Lancia Montecarlo, the Fiat Dino, the Alfa Romeo GTV and the Jaguar XJ6 Series III. With a blank slate and Mahindra's money behind it, Pininfarina's first production car really ought to be so pretty that you leave it your phone number rather than drive it.

If it pulls that off than it might just pull you away from the pile of brochures you have for the C-Class, 3-Series and A4. Or you could save yourself about 20 grand and get the same sort of visual sparkle from a 406 Coupé. See, we're full of useful consumer tips at *The Champion*…

David Simister is the editor of Classic Car Weekly

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Skem pay for slow start after fight back is too late

Skelmersdale 2
Droylsden 3

Jack Lenehan scores Skem. Picture by John Driscoll

SKELMERSDALE fought back from going three goals down but couldn't find an equaliser, *writes Neil Leatherbarrow.*

Skelmersdale United slipped to only their second defeat in eight matches at home to "The Bloods" on Monday night, despite having much of the possession and a lot of chances.

After Saturday's excellent performance at promotion chasing Hyde expectation was fairly high from Skem, but their cause wasn't helped when they conceded two goals in the opening 17 minutes.

The first goal came in the 11th minute with an owl goal from Jack Leneham after a bad bounce of the ball saw it ricochet off his leg and into the net.

It got very difficult for Skelmersdale in the 17th minute. A tidy build-up down the Droylsden right put the ball to Dominic Smith's feet about 20 yards from goal.

In one movement he swung his right boot sending the ball looping over Roberts into the top corner, a spectacular strike that was unexpected by all present, but it was 2-0 to Droylsden.

The nearest Skelmersdale came to pulling a goal back was when Scott Bakkor was put into the clear on 40 minutes, however keeper Branagan left his line and blocked Bakkor's shot with his legs.

In the 67th minute and Droylsden went 3-0 up. Former Burscough player Liam Caddick beat the Skelmersdale offside trap and was clean in on goal. He ran on for 20 yards then dinked a little chip over advancing keeper Roberts.

Skem pulled a goal back on 84 minutes when Josh Wardle headed home at the far post from a Beven Burey cross from the left.

In the 89th minute Lenehan got forward and scored his first goal for the club, cleverly beating two men before poking a shot from 20 yards low into the bottom corner.

The crowd got behind Dave Powell's team and they swarmed forward, but it was not to be. The crowd got behind Dave Powell's team and they swarmed forward, but it not to be and Droylsden held on.

It was a slow start and poor finishing that were the main reason for the result. Droylsden had taken their chances better in front of goal.

#	Team	Pl	Pts
16.	Ossett Albion	37	42
17.	Mossley	39	41
18.	Ramsbottom United	37	39
19.	Radcliffe Borough	37	38
20.	Brighouse Town	39	37
21.	Skelmersdale United	39	36
22.	Goole AFC	39	27

Skem slip to second from bottom in the table

Dogged display earns unlikely away point

Hyde United 0
Skelmersdale United 0

SKELMERSDALE produced a brilliant performance to earn an unlikely point against second-placed Hyde United last Saturday.

In the 27th minute Roberts pulled off a magnificent double reaction save from a point blank header by Hyde captain Paddy Miller, the second blocking the follow up.

After the break for 20 minutes or so Hyde put the pressure on again. It wasn't completely one way, Skelmersdale were still posing enough of a threat in attack to stop Hyde from over committing players up front, Bakkor, Darr and Bevan Burey particularly showing well. On 87 minutes Hyde got another great chance, but Jack Fleming miraculously got back to clear off the line and they held on for a point.

Meanwhile, Skelmersdale United need a point in the league to guarantee avoiding relegation with three games remaining.

Dave Powell's team are nine points clear of bottom placed AFC Goole and both have three games to play, but Skem have a superior goal difference, so they look to be safe.

Skelmersdale's last three games begin with a home game against South Shields this Saturday before they host Bamber Bridge on Tuesday, April 24. Their final game of the season is at Clitheroe on Saturday, April 28.

Linnets fight for goalless draw to set up crunch cup semi-final second leg

IT is a big day at Burscough's Victoria Park on Saturday as the Linnets go into the second leg of their Macron Cup (North-West Counties League Cup) semi-final on level terms with opponents Irlam after a 0-0 draw in the away leg last Saturday.

Manager Dave Sutton said: "It was a great result to get 0-0, we are in with a great chance of reaching the final.

"We played well on the day and maybe should have won, but it is effectively only half-time at the moment.

"Let's say we have the psychological advantage of being at home, but it is now a straight up semi-final when winners take all, so it won't be easy. We need everyone to get behind the lads on the day, let's all enjoy it."

It is a crunch time for Sutton's Linnets on all fronts at the moment. They are due to host Ashton Athletic tomorrow (Thursday, April 19) which will certainly be no warm up for the semi-final.

Burscough need to pick up as many points as possible and it could be said that the next ten days will define their whole season.

They travel to play away at Ashton Athletic on Tuesday, April 24, then they play hosts to Abbey Hey on Saturday, April 28.

Sutton added: "They are a great group of lads who are willing to fight for each other, we go into three weeks in which every game is a cup final, they will give their best.

"It is important for them that we stay up because we now have the backbone of a good team, the form we have shown since October has been that of a team in a lot higher position in the table, if we stay together, I can see us challenging next season."

Ormskirk out to defend title as cricket season gets underway

THE 2018 Liverpool & District Cricket Competition gets underway this weekend, weather permitting, with a whole host of local clubs set for a return to action.

Several clubs have been busy over the winter months recruiting new players, Premier Division champions Ormskirk will be captained by Nicky Caunce who replaces Matty Glayzer, all rounder Ryan Maddock has joined from Lytham, top order batsman Luke Platt has joined from Longridge, Josh Thompson from Northern and Andy Gill from Bootle, whilst Michael Jones has signed for Durham and Simon Kerrigan has returned to Fulwood & Broughton in Preston.

Maghull skipper Paul Walters almost led his side to promotion last season and will be hoping to go one better this time round.

However he's lost the services of Liam Crilly who's joined Irby and Zimbabwean paceman William Mashinge who's joined Leamington, whilst after a winter down under Macauley Lawrenson has opted to remain in Melbourne for the foreseeable future, the club have signed Australian all rounder Josh Mahoney from Laharum CC in Western Victoria and hope that Walters, Jon Ring, Greg Gillespie, Anthony Molloy and Cameron Lawrenson can help form the backbone of another promotion push.

Burscough have signed Australian Jonathon Curtis who has recently had spells at both Fleetwood Hesketh and Ormskirk, whilst last season's overseas player Ben Van Niekerk has not been retained.

On a sad note skipper Jon Stones has lost two top players in Rob Glaysher and Michael Bimpson, opening bowler Glaysher has moved down south and Bimpson has retired and hung up his gloves after a quality career behind the stumps and numerous runs with the bat, keeping duties have been passed on to the experienced Alan Murray.

The delayed 2017 Ray Digman Trophy semi final between Bottle and Ormskirk fell victim of the weather last Saturday, so a bowl out took place with Bootle winning 3-0 thanks to skipper Craig Prince (2) and Scott Butterworth (1), they will now host Northern in the final at Wadham Road on Sunday, April 29 at 1pm.

This weekend's local LDCC fixtures (1pm start) are Leigh v Formby, Northern v New Brighton, Ormskirk v Colwyn Bay, Rainford v Bootle, Ainsdale v Liverpool, Burscough v Birkenhead Park, Fleetwood Hesketh v Sefton Park, Wigan v Southport & Birkdale, Hightown St Mary's v Northop Hall, Maghull v Sutton and Spring View v Southport Trinity.

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